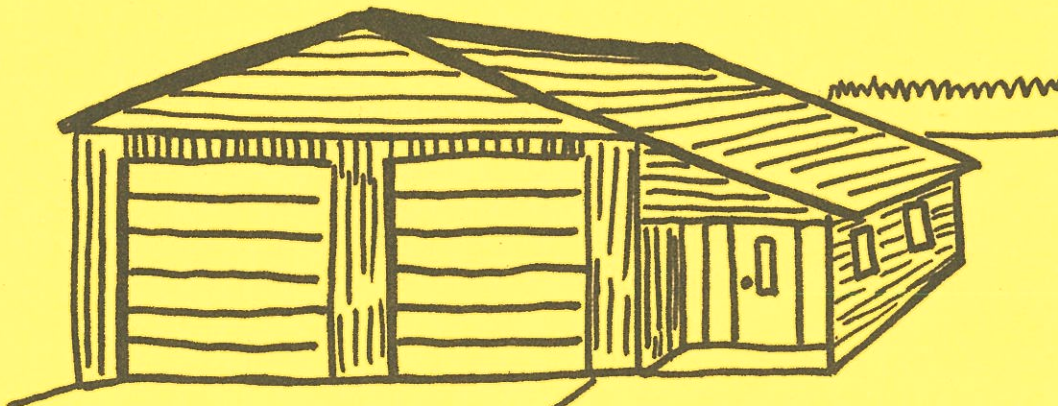


LORNE

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



WORKING TOGETHER
CREATES THE WAY

KEYSTONE EXTENSION
WORKSHOP

JANUARY 21-25, 1980

THE FIVE KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fire Protection System

One of the five great accomplishments over the last three years has been the Fire Protection System. Before July of 1977 fire protection for Lorne came from Jacket River 8 miles away and took at least thirty minutes for the arrival of a truck and often longer. By July 1977, the community collected \$7000 by a house-to-house collection and purchased the first fire truck. There was still no fire hall and the truck was kept at the first fire chief's house, Ronnie LaPointe. A new fire hall was begun in July of that year. It was built by volunteer help and a Canada Work Project grant. The Volunteer Firefighters Association was formed which now has 18 members. Because a building had been erected, a second fire truck was given to Lorne by the Department of Municipal Affairs in January 1978 and the original truck was repaired to be a more effective machine. In May 1978, a Women's Auxiliary was formed in order to help support the Firefighters and the Fire Hall, particularly by raising funds. The firemen themselves have also raised funds through Bingo and with the Auxiliary, sponsored dances. The Firefighters have begun training in the use of the pumps and have a continual plan for advanced training for various kinds of fires and the use of oxygen. In November 1979, the Junior Firefighters were formed. The firemen help to train them. The fire hall building has provided space for the Credit Union and made a place for disco dances. The Auxiliary sponsored a Rock-a-thon to buy sound equipment for those dances. The firemen are ready to serve 24 hours a day. Each home in the community has a list of the 5 key drivers and the total Firefighters roster. The Firefighters have also visited homes in Lorne to sell fire extinguishers and alarms. Now the Firefighters serve not only Lorne, but at least ten other communities in the Parish of Durham. At least a dozen fires have been controlled. Without this addition to the community, they would probably have ended in disaster. There is a real sense of security and confidence that has come to the community with this kind of community protection.

The Sawmill

One of the five great accomplishments over the last three years was the building of the New Sawmill. It was decided that a new sawmill would be the first step in getting the ball rolling in the economic. In April of 1977, visits were made all over the province to gain information about starting a sawmill in Lorne. A new mill was purchased from St. Maur and land was purchased on the site of W. Ralph Carrier's small mill. 10 people volunteered to tear down the old mill and construct the new one. John Dempsey became the first millwright and W. Ralph Carrier the manager. The ten people volunteered for 8 days to get it started. On August 27, 1977 the sawmill officially opened. Over 300 people from all over the province attended the Opening Day which also included a tour of the community. In the 1977 season the new building was constructed along with the planer mill and 50,000 board feet were sawed. Lumber for the new firehall was sawed that first season. Lieutenant-Governor Robichaud made a special visit to Lorne.

In the 1978 season, 85,000 board feet were sawed, the mill had ten employees, the first crown lot was allocated, the sawmill office was built, the new shingle mill was constructed and a CB was installed and burnt out. The forklift was purchased and the shingle mill motor was purchased. In the 1979 season the sawmill operated from July through September with 12 employees and 350,000 board feet were sawed. The new shingle mill trained five people. As a result of the sawmill, new jobs have been created both directly in the sawmill and indirectly for the men in the woods.

The sawmill uses the available natural resources of timber near to the community and has built on the historic skills of the community people who have worked in the woods for many generations. The sawmill and shingle mill, incorporated as the Lorne de l'Acadie Integrated Wood Industries Ltd. has allowed for a locally owned corporation. The mill is the basis for employment from the woods operation to the completion and manufacture of finished woodworking products.

LEDC Management Team

One of the five great accomplishments of the last three years was the LEDC Management Team. It was incorporated in the summer of 1978. However, its early beginnings were in the summer months of 1977 when members of the community invited in to Lorne outside technical consultants in agriculture and forestry. This Economic Task Force operated as a loosely related group of volunteers concerned about Lorne's economic future. The first officers after incorporation in 1978 included Colman LaPointe, John Stringham and Murielle Chamberlain. The LEDC was able to get loans and began serious research on possible industries. Trips to existing industries appropriate to Lorne's situation were important events. Potential markets were sought out. In the fall of 1978 the mechanics and marketing managers were hired to support the woodworking and sawmill industries. The LEDC served to link the economic ventures into one thrust. As a result of its formation, jobs have been provided to Lorne citizens, land has been purchased, and a new woodworking shop is being built. The political, business, cooperative, labour and social agencies in New Brunswick and beyond have been visited and their support given. Government grants have been funneled into industrial development. A Canada Works grant is providing jobs and further grants have paid for training the head sawyer and shingle mill operator and salaries of the student strawberry farmers. As a result of the LEDC Management Team in Lorne, we now have people trained to manage businesses and provide funding, do research, keep books and make future projections. In short, we in Lorne are able to manage the future economic growth of our community. The long road of corporate struggle lies ahead.

The Education Guild

One of the five great accomplishments of the last three years was the establishment of the Education Guild. This was started with the preschool in April 1977, a week after the consult and continued with an Education PSU in June 1977 with outside participation from the Bathurst Community College and local teachers. This directly resulted in a plan for Adult Education at different levels, High School Equivalency, and the continuation of the preschool as a first grade readiness programme. Adult Education is still continuing in 1980 with 14 regular students and three teachers. In 1978, five people from the High School Equivalency programme were awarded G.E.D. graduation certificates. The quality of the training enabled the Superintendent to grant a teaching permit without question. These programmes have brought recognition that serious education is ready to be undertaken in Lorne, drawing participants from as far as Belledune. Some of the members of the Education Guild are the core for the Credit Union, Adult Education, the Library and the International Year of the Child programme, and created the Juniouir Firefighters and the Community Recognition Day.

The Centennial Floats

One of the five great accomplishments of the last three years was winning two trophies for The Centennial Float both in Dalhousie and Bathurst in July 1977. Involved were 12 children on one float representing the International Year of the Child and 12 adults on a second float representing the past 100 years - Lorne's Centennial, and over 50 Lorne residents of all ages who worked on the preparation - making costumes, banners and decorations, securing antiques, a flatbed truck and a heritage well house. This had never been done before although parades went on every year. Because of the Centennial Year, Lorne wanted to honour its past and saw that these parades were an opportunity to be recognized as a community that has a great past. As a result of this accomplishment, people from outside of the community recognized the victory within Lorne, and it reminded people of their own great past. Following the award, the float paraded through the community causing great celebration like a wedding, and a week of celebration followed, marking the Centennial. Winning these trophies created a sense of pride within Lorne residents which allowed many new accomplishments to happen. Such an accomplishment which demonstrates the pride Lorne residents have in their community is the creation of the Lorne History book now being published. Many other victories since then have been won outside Lorne like the allotment of logs, the LHDP funding won by residents themselves, the invitation to make a second one-day presentation to the University of Moncton about Lorne, and successful visits to politicians like Minister Bird and Mr. Thibideau. These came about through telling the story of the winning floats and of the decision of the people that Lorne is a great place to be alive.