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# From THE Point

STATION NEWS  
FOR THE COMMUNITY



## Literacy and Laughter Pair Up in Reading Buddy Program

Point Lepreau employees encourage a  
love of learning for local grade 2 students

## Fire Protection: A Family Affair

Serving the community through the volunteer  
fire department has been a life-long love for  
Fire Chief Wayne Pollock and his wife Judy



Énergie NB Power

# LITERACY AND LAUGHTER PAIR UP IN READING BUDDY PROGRAM

POINT LEPREAU EMPLOYEES ENCOURAGE A LOVE  
OF LEARNING FOR LOCAL GRADE 2 STUDENTS

Learning your ABCs can be a lot more fun when you have a friend to help.

Employees from the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS) are just that, a friend to help, for students at Fundy Shores School, helping them with literacy through a buddy system that pairs employee mentors with students of the K-5 school in Dipper Harbour.

“We have a close relationship with the local community,” says Kathleen Duguay, Community Affairs and Nuclear Regulatory Protocol Manager, from PLNGS. “The families whose children attend Fundy Shores are our friends, relatives and neighbours. The feeling of being part of this learning experience brings joy and satisfaction to both the students and the volunteers.”

The mentorship is part of the Elementary Literacy Friends (ELF) program, a volunteer-based reading program at Anglophone schools across New Brunswick. This is the second year Point Lepreau has participated. Employees meet with the students twice a week throughout the 10-week noon hour program. It wraps up with a celebration where students have the opportunity to read and present a story they wrote.

“The program is a success once again thanks to the dedication of our wonderful volunteers from Point Lepreau. The kids love it and the teachers find it beneficial,” says Sean Gorman, Principal at the Fundy Shores School.

“Elementary Literacy Inc. is beyond pleased with the ongoing partnership between our organization and PLNGS,” says Laura Morrell, Elementary Literacy Inc. Program Officer. “The volunteers have consistently gone above and beyond to deliver not only the ELF literacy program, but they truly take their roles as mentors to heart. It has been inspiring to see the results of this partnership flourish and hear the student participants speak about how much they enjoy the time spent with their mentors. We certainly hope to see this partnership continue and would like to thank the volunteers for the time they have given to help young readers emerge!”



*Celena is presenting the story she wrote to Beth, Kashi and Katie.*

## About Elf

Through the ELF program, community volunteers are paired with Grade 2 students to provide additional time focused on reading to support literacy skills. Volunteers spend two hours per week reading with the students, for a 10-week term. To learn more about ELF, visit [www.elfnb.com](http://www.elfnb.com).

# A COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

REGULAR CHECKUPS ARE PART OF THE SAFETY ASSURANCE PROGRAM AT POINT LEPREAU



*Dave Joyce and Dave Wilson (Foremen) and Tim Robart (Site Supervisor) of Aluma Systems.*

reliably. There is a total of 13,851 scaffold pipe pieces that highly trained and qualified scaffolders and carpenters installed on the outside of the reactor building, which are equal to 67,974 linear feet of scaffolding material.

“It’s an important job because of the level of activity and the number of partner organizations involved in it,” says Wayne Woodworth, PLNGS Outage Manager. “And, it is an important test because these periodic inspections allow us to continue to validate the condition of the building structure over its lifetime and ensure the right maintenance is done at the right time to keep it in optimum condition.”

“I really enjoy the work at the Plant because I am always impressed with the strong safety culture,” says Tim Robart, Site Supervisor at Aluma Systems. “I have people working with me with between 5 to 40 years of experience and when we come here, it is an opportunity to learn a bit more about job

“ I really enjoy the work at the Plant because I am always impressed with the strong safety culture. ”  
- Tim Robart, Site Supervisor at Aluma Systems

As part of our 2018 planned maintenance outage, Point Lepreau’s ongoing safety and monitoring program is getting a little help from friends this winter as the reactor building gets its routine checkup.

If you drive or sail by the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS) you might notice a higher level of activity underway. Some nuclear station employees, in partnership with external contractors, are conducting tests to continue to demonstrate the integrity of the structural concrete in the Station’s reactor building. Some of those inspections are done inside the reactor building and others will be done on the external structure. It is part of a regular testing cycle to meet Canadian regulatory standards that ensure all nuclear plants remain robust and fit for duty over their lifetime.

To the outside eye, the work looks a bit like a building under restoration with massive scaffolding, but in reality the work being done is simply to verify that the structure continues to do its job safely and

safety. As contractors, our safety training is treated the same as Station employees and that is something we can take with us to the next job.”

Work to monitor the Plant and equipment condition is an everyday part of work at the Station. The philosophy of inspection and maintenance for a nuclear plant is similar to what you do on your house. If you keep on top of it, the Plant, like the house, will stay in good shape and continue to serve you well.

There are many safety systems in place inside the Plant and regular inspections and maintenance are an integral part of safe nuclear operations. In this case, that work is more visible to the public because the inspection work is also being done to the building’s exterior.



# FIRE PROTECTION: A FAMILY AFFAIR

SERVING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN A LIFE-LONG LOVE FOR FIRE CHIEF WAYNE POLLOCK AND HIS WIFE JUDY



*Troy Price, Emergency Response team member, and Wayne Pollock, Fire Chief participating in a training drill at PLNGS.*

In 1972, Wayne and Judy Pollock, a young Saint John couple, found their way to Musquash where they built a home and settled in to raise their family. Just a few years later, the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station laid down its own roots in the community when construction began in 1975.

Over four decades later, the Pollock family has grown. Now, two married children are raising their own families in the community. As the Pollock family matured, so too did the Plant, building a vibrant community and forever changing the course of the Pollocks' lives.

This June, Wayne Pollock celebrates 30 years as chief of the Musquash Volunteer Fire Department, serving the surrounding parish. Today, he is also well known for his role as co-chair of PLNGS Community Liaison Committee, which he co-chairs with the Plant's Community Affairs & Nuclear Protocol Manager, Kathleen Duguay. It is a strong partnership and the committee has become a vital connector between the Plant and the community. But his history with the Plant goes right back to the time of its construction.

Chief Pollock was Customer Service Manager with the New Brunswick Telephone Company

and it became his job to manage the phone line installation for the entire Station. Part of his responsibility was with the contractors that were there, breaking sod and building the nuclear plant. He spent a lot of hours overseeing the telephone work during that construction phase.

"The value of the Plant goes beyond the electricity it produces to the sense of community it has created in the lives of those around it," says Wayne. "There were seven communities in the Parish of Musquash; what the Plant did for us over the years has made us into one big community."

“ Whether you’re being paid for this or not, whether you’re a volunteer or a career firefighter, you still face all the same dangers... ”

- Chief Wayne Pollock

Developing the Parish Volunteer Fire Department helped nourish that community identity and unity. It was created shortly after the 1983 commissioning of the Plant, made possible by the increased tax base from the Plant. It was an effort Chief Pollock was committed to from Day 1, in part due to his first-hand experience with a devastating fire at his mother’s home.

When the force was formed in July 1985 with the first 20 volunteers, he signed on as deputy chief for the Musquash community, alongside another deputy in the Dipper Harbour area.

“I had absolutely zero experience,” recalls the Chief, who has spent the last 33 years gaining the expertise he has today. “Nowadays, volunteers go through an extensive and ongoing training regimen.”

“Whether you’re being paid for this or not, whether you’re a volunteer or a career firefighter, you still face all the same dangers and challenges as a firefighter, so the level of training has certainly come on a lot more than it did when we first started,” he says.

Today’s training includes weekly exercises at the Plant and within the community. The full-time emergency responders at the Plant train side-by-side with what is now a 55-person volunteer force.

“It is a real team effort between the Point Lepreau management and staff, the Plant responders and the volunteer force,” says the Chief. “Everyone is really pulling together to give the best service to ensure the safety of the Plant and of the community.”



*Judy Pollock with husband, Wayne Pollock, Fire Chief.*

The mutual training arrangement means all the volunteers are completely versed in working in a nuclear environment, know their way around the Plant and can assist anywhere in the Plant as needed.

The strong collaboration between the Plant and the fire department has earned the initiative recognition from the World Association of Nuclear Operators.

None of it would be possible without the equal commitment of his wife Judy, who started the journey with him from Saint John all those years ago.

“I am very fortunate to have a partner in my wife Judy. She has been extremely supportive of the quality time the fire service has taken away from her. She’s been

side by side with me to make that work,” he says, noting her instrumental role on the auxiliary committee.

Through the couple’s decades in Musquash, the fire station and the Plant have been at the centre of it all.

“I get a lot of satisfaction giving back to the community, helping people in need,” says the Chief. “There’s a lot of reward in that. I’ve seen a lot of our young firefighters get some great training and get jobs. It’s been a real win-win situation to see how the fire department has really helped them in their lives.”



# THE SPRING MIGRATION OF SEABIRDS

THE MIGRATION HABITS OF SEABIRDS ARE IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL MARKERS



*NB Power is proud to assist the observatory volunteers who track the birds year-over-year as they pass by the site.*

For over 23 years, the Saint John Naturalists' Club have maintained a bird observatory at the tip of the Point Lepreau peninsula. The Club regularly hosts members as well as other naturalists who voluntarily assist with seabird migration research over the course of several weeks each spring and fall.

Management and staff at the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS) assisted the Club with setup of the observatory

in 1995. "Since then, they have been extremely cooperative with arranging security clearance for a total of more than 250 volunteers and with scheduling visits by some of those volunteers on a daily basis during the spring and fall bird migration periods," says observatory Chair, Jim Wilson.

"This ongoing relationship is important to the Club's continuing research work", says Wilson. The seabird data is used by the Canadian Wildlife Service of

Environment Canada for the management of east coast seabird populations. The Point Lepreau Bird Observatory is one of only two seabird observatories on the east coast of North America.

Point Lepreau is a strategic research location and continued access is essential. "It is quite possible that the majority of the east coast's seabirds wintering south of New Brunswick pass within sight of Point Lepreau as they follow the coast north in

spring toward Arctic nesting grounds,” says Wilson. For that reason, Point Lepreau and adjacent Maces Bay were declared an Important Bird Area in 2001, a special designation by Birdlife International that highlights the location on a map of significant bird sites, worldwide.

In addition to the bird migration, PLNGS has been involved since 2006 in one of the observatory’s projects aimed at conservation and research of the Monarch butterfly, a species at risk.

“Plant management has arranged the planting of milkweed on its property and Plant staff and community members have assisted with the tagging of Monarchs at the observatory as the butterflies make their way south to Mexico during August and September each year,” says Wilson.

The data on migrating Monarchs is shared with Monarch Watch, a research project at the University of Kansas dedicated to the protection and preservation of the Monarch butterfly.

“Point Lepreau may be the most important migration stopover site for migrating Monarchs in all of New Brunswick,” says Wilson, “in part because it is a critical location for rest and nourishment during their fall migration along the Bay of Fundy coast.”

## DID YOU KNOW?

### **NB Power’s commitment to the environment:**

The people who work at New Brunswick Power care about the environment. At Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS), we are blessed to work in one of the most treasured ecosystems in Canada, and some would say, in the world. We take the responsibility of environmental stewardship seriously, for ourselves, our families, our communities and for future generations.

We are committed to producing safe, reliable and cost-effective electricity and we are committed to doing it in an environmentally-responsible way.

### **NB Power’s Sustainability Policy:**

NB Power is committed to sustainable development by providing stewardship and leadership in the areas of the environment and the community while meeting its mandate for the provision of economically-viable and reliable energy to the people of New Brunswick.

### **The following principles will guide NB Power’s actions and decision-making:**

- NB Power meets or, where it makes business sense, exceeds all applicable legislation, regulations and non-regulatory commitments.
- NB Power will conduct systematic audits to assess compliance with regulatory requirements, industry standards and internal procedures and to inform management about environmental risks and opportunities.
- NB Power will establish a framework of objectives and targets to assist its employees in meeting the utility’s commitment to pollution prevention, continual improvement and sustainable development.
- NB Power will promote the efficient use of electricity.
- NB Power will provide information to its employees, contractors and the public concerning its performance.
- NB Power strives to ensure its Sustainable Development Policy is respected by all its partners, contractors and suppliers.

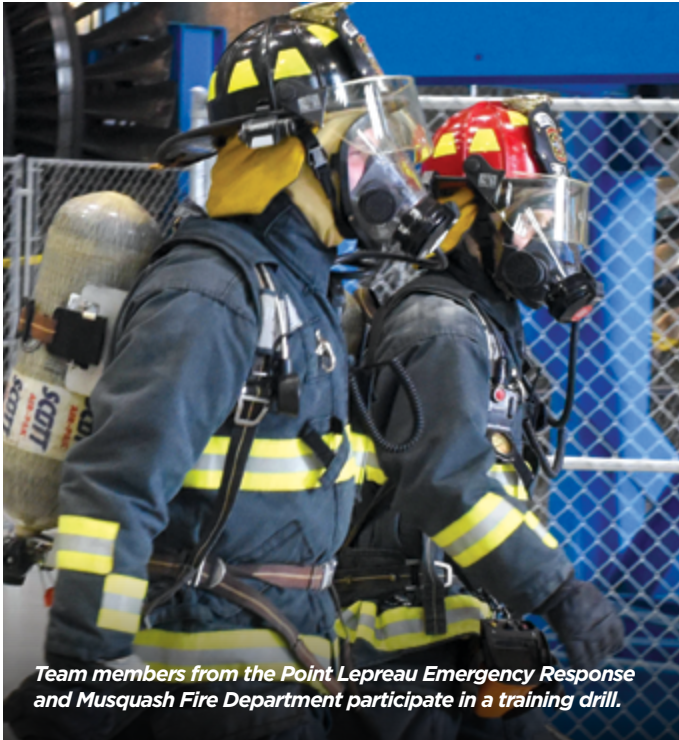
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PLNGS is registered to the ISO 14001 (International Organization for Standardization) Environment Management System Standard which is used as an environmental framework. The Station also applies any applicable industry-best practices in order to continually improve its performance, while minimizing its environmental impact, preventing pollution and achieving excellence.



# PREPARED AND INFORMED

## PARTNERS IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



The overall objective of the exercise is to continue to demonstrate the preparedness of PLNGS, NB Power, government and non-government organizations and agencies which would respond to, and recover from, a highly unlikely emergency event at the Station. They will use a scenario for an event at the Plant beyond what would ever be expected to occur. This kind of scenario adds an additional robustness to our emergency planning capabilities by challenging us to prepare for something well beyond what is probable given the climate and conditions in which the Plant is located.

“ We appreciate the participation and support provided by the members of Point Lepreau and its neighbouring communities. ”

- Nick Reicker, Superintendent,  
PLNGS Emergency Preparedness & Environment

Being prepared for all kinds of emergencies is one more part of the on-going work NB Power employees do every day across the province to ensure public, employee and environmental safety.

At Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLNGS) this includes working with our community, industry and government partners to ensure New Brunswickers can be confident in our collective emergency response capabilities.

Early this year, Point Lepreau sent out emergency preparedness calendars to homes throughout the surrounding community with tips on how residents can ensure their own home preparedness plans are up-to-date for any kind of emergency. In addition, we also undertake our own on-going preparedness activities.

In October 2018, NB Power will be hosting a full scale nuclear emergency response field exercise called Exercise Synergy Challenge 2018 at PLNGS. The exercise is held in partnership with the province of New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization (NB EMO) and supported by regional, provincial and federal institutions - over 30 agencies will be participating. This will be a recovery-based exercise.

The effectiveness of our emergency response program is continuously assessed through drills and exercises to ensure timely and accurate response capabilities and is supported through public awareness and preparedness. Our nuclear regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, reviews the Emergency Preparedness Program.

“We appreciate the participation and support provided by the members of Point Lepreau and its neighbouring communities,” says Nick Reicker, Superintendent, PLNGS Emergency Preparedness & Environment.

Preparedness for any emergency is just one more part of our investment in safety.

## CONTACT US

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