

Minister Wiseman, Ladies & Gentlemen

It's indeed an honour to win this Environmental Award. I thank the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Newfoundland & Labrador Women's Institute and the MMSB for recognizing the Town of Holyrood and the Waste Management / Environmental Committee for our work on behalf of the environment. We are delighted to play some small part in reducing our carbon footprint and in most cases saving a few dollars in the process.

I would like to take all the credit for the work we have done but that wouldn't be fair and it wouldn't be true. I'm just the chair of the committee. It's been a team effort. I think it's appropriate that I recognize some of the key players on this team.

- The residents of the Town of Holyrood for participating in our programs. We could develop great plans but unless we get people to participate, we're dead in the water. We have been very fortunate that our citizens have come on board.
- Members of our Waste Management / Environmental Committee for their dedication and hard work. I joined this group two years ago. Some initiatives were ongoing at that time. We have moved these forward and started many new ones.
- The MMSB for their leadership and support. We've partnered with the MMSB on two projects, The Community Compost Facility and the Provincial Backyard Composting Program.
- The students and staff of Holy Cross Elementary School for their participation. We all know that the key to changing attitudes about the environment lies with the children. We've partnered with the school on two environmental projects, The Organic Collection Initiative and The Beverage Container Collection Program.
- Mayor Gobbie and the members of the Holyrood Town Council for their unwaivering support. Our committee is an advisory group. Council has to approve and financially support anything we do. We have been very fortunate to get their backing for every initiative we have brought forward.

- Last but by no means least I would like to recognize our CAO (Mr. Gary Corbett) and his staff for their hard work on behalf of our committee and the environment. An active committee creates work for the administration and support staff of a town. Every new initiative brings with it a new set of challenges for town employees. Without exception they have embraced these challenges enthusiastically.

In closing, I would like to assure you that our Town will continue to be proactive on environmental issues and we will do whatever we can to make this planet a better place for future generations.

Thank You