

6 April 2017

To: Musgrave Harbour Town Council

From: Bill Montevecchi

Re: Saving the FPU Museum

Attached please find a report by Marcus Hart that provides community and historical rationale for saving the FPU Museum.

The report recognizes tourism, educational and entrepreneurial opportunities for the town.

We have identified what we believe is needed to save the FPU Museum.

We hope you will consider this matter seriously, and we would be glad to meet with Council to discuss options for moving forward.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward hearing from you.

Sincerely,



W. A. Montevecchi

cc: Raymond Stokes (Mayor)
Kim Osborne (Secretary)
Bill Smith (Head of Recreation)
Sheldon Gillam (Principle - Gill Memorial Academy)
Harvey Cuff
Watson Mouland
Siobhan Mouland

Save the Musgrave Harbour FPU Museum



Considerations for the preservation and renovation of the Fisherman's Protective Union (FPU) Museum in Musgrave Harbour NL.

And the benefits it would provide for the citizens and town of Musgrave Harbour

By Marcus R. Hart

❖ History

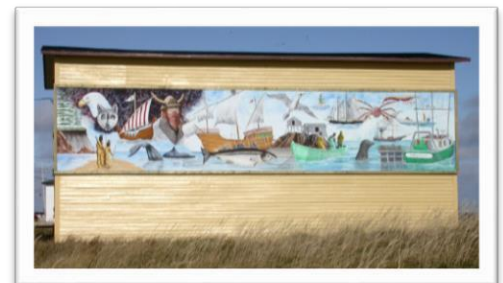
- The town of Musgrave Harbour was settled in 1834 by John and Ann Whiteway.
- The FPU Museum was built in 1910 by Sir William Coaker of the Fisherman's Protective Union as a general store and office.
- A portrait of Sir William Coaker is on display.
- FPU Museum contains hundreds of historic texts such as ledgers and documents detailing information about the town's and Newfoundland's history. These need to be archived because of their significance to our provincial history.



Sir William Coaker

❖ Community Values

- The exhibits in the FPU Museum are citizen donations. They are valued contributions from the town's past and present residents.
- Community involvement includes donations by people, painting of mural by Wayne Cuff, and the involvement of students in the summer.
- Has historic value to the town because the FPU Museum was the first store in Musgrave Harbour.
- The FPU Museum is one of a few providers of work for young adults just entering the work force.
- Used as an educational outlet about the history of Newfoundland for younger generations.



❖ Tourism

- The FPU Museum is on both www.newfoundlandlabrador.com, www.TripAdvisor.com and the towns website <http://musgraveharbour.com/links.html> but, those have been out of date for many years and need to be updated.
- Musgrave Harbour can become a Hub for tourism due to several factors:
 - i. The town is rich in both short and long term accommodations.
 - ii. The town has three restaurants and a grocery store.
 - iii. The town is adjacent to magnificent sandy beaches, dunes and forest habitat.
 - iv. Banting Memorial Park is already a tourist attraction, so the market is there.
 - v. The FPU Museum can expand on these, for example by incorporating a seabird exhibition [as has been created at the FPU Centre on Fogo Island]



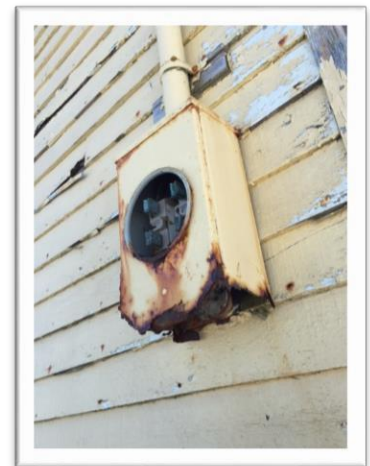
❖ Concerns

- This secondary Museum (Orange Hall) is out away from the main road, away from most sites, and has very little parking, is rather poor site for any tourist looking to visit (On a hill the poor view scape and is confusing for those who came to see the original FPU Museum.
- Work was done on the Orange Hall with the town spending money on minor repairs completed by high school students, but this cost is negligible.



❖ Renovations

- The FPU Museum is a solidly constructed, wooden building in excellent condition and is asbestos free.
- The plumbing needs replacement because there is no running water. A pipe outside was suffering from a burst due too frozen water. The cost for this is estimated at 2000 at most.
- The FPU Museum requires new coats of paint outside and some roofing repair.
- Some windows need repair, replacement, and cleaning



- The FPU Museum has a 200 AMP system so minor upgrading might be needed but the wiring is fine it will be estimated at 5,000\$ to repair.
- The grounds around the FPU Museum need cleaning (littering, broken glass, etc.)
- The foundation is on a stone slab with stone pillars as support which may need reinforcement.
- The outside siding is deteriorated and needs to be torn down and replaced. A coat of paint is also needed.



❖ **Looking Ahead for the FPU Museum**

- The town of Musgrave Harbour can save an important NL Historic landmark.
- This incentive would benefit the town's economy and cultural integrity.
- This preservation is important for the town's next generations.
- The FPU Museum preservation would:
 - Provide opportunity to move forward with ACOA and other funding opportunities.
 - Enhances the town's general appearance and description.
 - Provides an educational opportunity for youth as well as involvement in their community.
 - Could lead to a boost in the economy of Musgrave Harbour.

❖ **Letter to Bill**

- Work was done on the Inter. Centre and is completely repaired and their was a application for a grant to repair the boardwalk.
- No Ground wiring In the FPU Museum.
- The walls are sealed shut so no wires are exposed,
- The power was cut by Water & Power due to a rusted out power box outside, and is thus disconnected overhead. They did not contact the town before doing this.
- The inside is very structurally sound and shows no cases of decay or disrepair, no renovations are needed.
- The town does want to rebuild the Museum and has other plans for the Orange hall if we help them.
- The Interpretation Centre received a couple grants which have rebuilt it back into working order
- The boardwalk has a grant applied for it to fix it as well.

- While the last one on the council didn't care about the museum to much degree, Bill smith does and wishes to continue to help
- His email is billsmith.bs@gmail.com
- **Town Council** The FPU Museum's location is ideal for tourism because:
 - Being mentioned on several tourism sites.
 - Location by the sea.
 - Being on the main road is easy for tourist to find.
 - Parking space being quite open and accessible.

❖ **Members**

- Raymond Stokes (Mayor)
- Kim Osborne (Secretary)
- Bill Smith (Head of department of recreation)
- Sheldon Gillam (Principle of Gill Memorial Academy)
- Harvey Cuff
- Watson Mouland
- Siobhan Mouland