

# PWMG Planning Day: Moving the Organization Forward

On April 8th, the PWMG Executive and several new community members got together at Chateau Moncton to plan the future of the Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group.

Lead by Jamie Gamble of Imprint Inc., the group went through our history, what is going on now within the organization and what we envision for the future.

Major themes that came from the day include:

- That we have accomplished many projects including but not limited to the Preliminary Water Classification of the Petitcodiac and Memramcook Watersheds, Rehabilitation work on Hall's Creek and Jonathan Creek, a community education program and the continued development of our multi-sectoral partnerships;
- The tributaries of the Petitcodiac River (all the waterways that flow into the Petitcodiac) are under increasing pressure from development and human activities.

Sustainable, controlled development needs to be a priority.

- Moving forward with a fresh new logo that better represents our group;
- Changing our name to something shorter and snappier in both languages;
- There is a need and a desire to our increase our visibility in the community and better distribute all the information we collect;
- That we need to widen our funding base in order to survive (funds coming from various sources as opposed to primarily the Environmental Trust Fund).



Finally, there is a sense of new energy within the organization that is being tapped. We can make so much happen!

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—June 1st, 2006

The 10th PWMG Annual General Meeting will be held at Université de Moncton (Rémi-Rossignol science building, R-221) on June 1st, 2006 at 7:00 pm

Come out and hear about the past year's activities and what's going on now!

Draw Prizes will be awarded to those in attendance.

### In this issue:

Coordinator's Corner	2
2006 Funding: So much done for so little!	2
Questions Remain about the Causeway	2
2006 Field Season Underway	3
Upcoming Events	3
Did you Know?	3
Become a Friend of the Watershed!	4



# Coordinator's Corner

Life continues to be exciting at the PWMG-GSBP office since I last wrote in December 2005. We ended the year having completed four publications, soon to be available on our website! I have listed them and a brief description.

- (1) **State of Jonathan Creek:2005.** Report produced by Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group. Moncton, New Brunswick. 31 pp.

Jonathan Creek has been the subject of several reports. This report aimed to update the information currently available. In particular, the report focuses on the suspended sediment concentrations and the point and non-point sources of sediment into the system. *Submitted to:* Jonathan Creek Committee

- (2) **Stream Habitat Assessment: Mapleton Park Brooks.** Report produced by Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group. Moncton, New Brunswick. 19 pp.

This is the first technical report on the habitat of the Mapleton Park Brooks. The objective is to record the primary habitat features as they currently exist. The water quality and habitat of the streams are described within this report. *Submitted to:* City of Moncton, AVIDE Developments, Mapleton Park Guardians.

- (3) **Water Quality Assessment 2005: Rabbit Brook.** Report produced by Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group. Moncton, New Brunswick. 37 pp.

This is the first technical report focused solely on the water quality of Rabbit Brook. The primary objective is to determine sources of *E.Coli* entering into the watercourse. The water quality of the stream is described within. *Submitted to:* City of Moncton

- (4) **PWMG Activity Report : 2005-2006.** Report produced by Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group. Moncton, New Brunswick. 19 pp.

This report summarizes and analyses the status of water quality throughout the Petitcodiac and Memramcook Watershed. It further enhances our knowledge of the state of each tributary studied.

January, February and March consisted of completing funding proposals, meetings and getting to all the things we aren't able to do during the field season. I will be taking a 4-month leave-of-absence from May to September to complete my MSc. I take this opportunity to introduce our Interim coordinator Sophie Leblanc. Sophie recently completed her MSc. in Biology at L'Université de Moncton. She is an amazing addition to the team. **Please feel to email or phone us anytime!**

In the long run, there are no secrets in science. The universe will not cooperate in a cover-up.  
- Arthur C. Clark

## 2006 Funding: So much done for so little

Funding is a never-ending issue when working in a non-profit organization. In the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the Environmental Trust Fund was our primary funder (80% of our total budget). Our total budget in 2005-2006 was approximately \$50,000.00. This covers our activities, payroll, newsletter and equipment. We do so much for so little! It's amazing actually.

This year (2006-2007), PWMG has requested substantially more and from a variety of organizations including Mountain Equipment Co-op, Science Horizons (Environment Canada) and EcoAction. We have also repeated funding requests to Young Canada Works, HRDC Summer Career Placements and of course the Environmental Trust Fund.

**If you have any interest or ideas for PWMG fundraising, we would be more than excited to hear them!**

"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little."

~Edmund Burke

## The causeway will be removed on....

The question I am asked most often is: When will the causeway be removed?

The answer: Your guess is as good as mine. With three levels of government, lots of local politics and fear of unpopular decision making, the process continues to be a long one. My prediction is within 10 years but I won't bet on it...



PWMG has kept out of this issue preferring to dedicate our funds and energy to education, research and rehabilitation efforts. A lot of causeway information is available on the Riverkeepers website :



[www.petitcodiac.org](http://www.petitcodiac.org)  
And the environmental impact assessment page:  
[www.petitcodiac.com](http://www.petitcodiac.com)

# 2006 Field Season is Underway and the Projects are Super

3 April 2006

On March 29th and 30th, I went out for our first field day of the 2006 season. PWMG has monitored the same sites since 1997 thus we have a really good grasp on what improvements and deteriorations we find around the watershed. Both days were beautiful and sunny. Dissolved Oxygen, pH and temperatures were normal at all sites monitored in the Petitcodiac Watersheds. E.Coli levels were also below the 200 MPN/ 100 mL (Canadian Recreational Water Quality Standard) for every site.

The water was very low for this time of year. Hopefully a wet Spring will raise water tables before the summer heat hits. I may be one of the only people hoping for lots of rain this month and in May!

21 April 2006

Well, I had put this article aside while I attended to other things to do. In the last 72 hours, Moncton has received 82.8 mm of rain. That is a lot of rain considering the average for the entire month of April (climate normals 1971-2000) is 99.3 mm.

On Monday, Sophie and I will head to the Memramcook sites and on Wednesday we will re-visit the Petitcodiac sites (it's al-

ready been a month since my first visit... time flies).

## Awesome Projects have been planned for this summer and fall

### (I) Reconnecting aquatic species to historical habitats

Location: Fox Creek, North Branch Hall's Creek and Jonathan Creek

Culvert Survey—are they fish friendly? We have the expertise to find out. A combination of inventory taking and electrofishing will be used to determine the level of fish passage in those 3 creeks

### (II) Long-term water quality monitoring continued



Sitting to calibrate the equipment on the side of Fox Creek

Location: 32 sites in the Petitcodiac and Memramcook watersheds.

Water quality parameters included *E.Coli*, total coliforms, dissolved oxygen, temperature, suspended sediment concentrations, pH and salinity.

### (III) Watershed Identification Project

Location: Throughout the Petitcodiac Watershed.

In the fall, community groups will be contacted to post river, stream and creek identification signs where these waterways cross roads and highways. Are you part of a group that might like to post these long-lasting signs? Call us or Email

### (IV) North Branch Hall's Creek Aquatic Habitat Assessment

Areas around North Branch may soon be developed. In order to maintain and improve the current habitat condition, we must know what is there.

### (V) Logo / Name Design—PWMG re-invented

As our organization grows up, we are becoming more professional. Keep your eyes open for our new look!

## Upcoming Events

27 MAY: Caledonia Gorge Protected Area Day  
11 am to 2 pm—Meet at Riverside-Albert Recreation Centre at 11 am. More information available at [www.cpawnsb.org](http://www.cpawnsb.org)

1 JUNE: PWMG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3 JUNE: Geology and Fossils—A day with Arie Wissink to visit spots like Cape Enrage and Joggins where winter storms will have exposed interesting finds. See [www.monctonnaturalistsclub.org](http://www.monctonnaturalistsclub.org) for more information.

The Moncton Naturalists Club meets the third Tuesday each month, (except for July and August), at 7 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene on 21 Fieldcrest Drive.

9,10,11 JUNE: Dragon Boat Festival, Jones Lake  
[www.gmdbf.ca](http://www.gmdbf.ca)

21 JUNE: Summer Solstice—Take advantage of the longest day in the year.

## Did you know?

- + PWMG currently has 62 members. Our goal is to have 100 members by December 2006. Join Us!
- + There may be flying squirrels in Irishtown Nature Park?!
- + The Petitcodiac River is 129 kms long
- + An area of more than 2000 square kilometers drains into the Petitcodiac River—all those rivers that PWMG monitors.

+ There are many people that fish in the tributaries of the Petitcodiac River. I hear there is excellent fishing on the Pollett River and Little River (catch n' release of course!)

+ PWMG is located in Commerce House at 236 St. Geroge Blvd. Drop by anytime!





**PETITCODIAC WATERSHED  
MONITORING GROUP**

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**To achieve a healthy environment for the  
greater good of the Petitcodiac Watershed**

**Find us on the web!**

[www.pwmg-gsbp.org](http://www.pwmg-gsbp.org) and  
<http://pwmg-gsbp.blogspot.com>

Address

## Become a Friend of the Watershed!



Pollett River, 30 March 2006



**Membership form / Formulaire d'inscription pour devenir  
membre**

Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group/Groupe de Surveillance du  
Bassin de la Petitcodiac (2006)

Name/ Nom: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization/ Organisation/ Job Title/ Emplois (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel./Tél. \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail/ Courriel: \_\_\_\_\_ (très important/ very important)  
Fees/ Frais:

- > Fish Friend—\$20, Includes quarterly newsletter, occasional updates
- > River Rescuer- \$50, Includes quarterly newsletter, updates, members only mug
- > Watershed Supporter —\$100, Includes quarterly newsletter, updates, annual report (State of the Watershed), members only t-shirt "Are you using the right protection for your watershed?"
- > Corporate/ Watershed Supporter —\$250+, all of the above plus announcement on our regularly visited website

\*\* all memberships include voting privileges at our Annual General Meeting

Checks should be made  
payable to PWMG-GSBP  
Inc. and sent to:

PWMG-GSBP Inc.  
po box 23046  
Moncton, NB E1A 6S8