

## Presidents Message

By Peter Oram



February was a very busy month for MANS and I thought I would give you a quick overview of our activities. I would encourage any of you who might be interested in additional details to contact us at your convenience.

February saw MANS representatives meeting with a number of stakeholders including but not limited to the Deputy Minister at the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Workforce Development, the Regional Director at Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency – Atlantic office, the team at the Nova Scotia Department of Finance that is engaged in the budget consultation process, the Chief Administrative Officer at the Halifax Regional Municipality, the President of Nova Scotia Business Inc. and the Honourable Geoff Regan, Liberal critic for Natural Resources. As well, we participated in the Atlantic Geoscience Society meeting in Moncton

On the research side, we spent quite a bit of time researching the proposal for the Bras D'Or Lakes Reserve Biosphere application. We also provided comments on the socio-economic report for the three candidate wilderness areas prepared by Jacques Whitford.

Finally, I am happy to announce that our strategic communications plan is well on track and we should have a final report by the end of March 2009. MANS members continue to be involved in the consultation process leading to that final report.

As you can see, we have been quite busy this last month as we continue to ride the wave of issues that come our way.

That's it for me this month – look forward to seeing you at our Annual General Meeting April 7 and 8 in Halifax!

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## MANS Annual General Meeting – April 7 & 8, 2009

While program specific details will be coming shortly, please take note of the following times and information for our upcoming Annual General Meeting. Meeting location is the Citadel Halifax – **please see conference registration form** which is the last page of this edition.

### April 7, 2009

- 1:00 PM – Registration Desk Opens – Main Lobby
- 3:00 PM – Annual General Meeting - Cavalier A&B Rooms
- 6:00 PM – Opening Reception – Wentworth & Atrium Rooms

### April 8, 2009

- 7:00 AM – Registration Desk Reopens
- 7:30 AM – Breakfast – Wentworth & Atrium Rooms
- 8:30 AM – Plenary and Technical Sessions – Cavalier A & Cavalier B
- 12 Noon – Lunch – Wentworth & Atrium Rooms

## Executive Director's Message

By Michelle Landreville

It is the first week of March and I am writing this piece at the Prospectors and Developers annual convention in Toronto. I am happy to report that the mood on the international and national scale for our industry as demonstrated by the activity here in Toronto is still quite positive. The Nova Scotia contingent at this convention is strong with a great representation from MANS members, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and a number of prospectors from around our province. In particular, we were all pleased that our new Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Carolyn Bolivar-Getson was able to participate, if only for a short time, at this event. There is nothing like the PDAC to give you a true sense of how large and how important our industry really is.

Since Peter Oram, our President, gave you a great overview of our February activities the only thing left for me to do is to remind you of our upcoming **Annual General Meeting being held April 7 and 8 here in Halifax**. Details on the program and how to register will be on our web site soon so please check out <http://www.tmans.ca>. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Board Meeting Highlights –February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

The Board meeting of February 19<sup>th</sup> included discussion on the following matters:

- Bras D'Or Lakes Reserve Biosphere designation;
- Update from MANS Strategic Planning Committee;
- Proposed response to Nova Scotia Department of Environment on the Socioeconomic Analysis Summary for Three New Wilderness Areas; and,
- 2009 budget for the Association.

Thanks were extended to Leo McArthur and Lafarge for sponsoring our meeting that day.

## Spring Weight Restrictions

Nova Scotia’s vehicle weight and dimension rules indicate the maximum size and weight of vehicles that can use the public highway system, and there are special applications to these rules as the weather warms begins to change to spring. The intent of these rules is to protect the infrastructure and ensure road safety.

As a convenience to our members who these regulations may affect, below is the applicable act, and a separate PDF attachment includes the exemption list. For more information, please visit <http://www.gov.ns.ca/tran/springweight.asp> .

IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 20 OF THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS ACT,

R.S.N.S. 1989, C. 371

### ORDER

Pursuant to subsection 20 (1) of Chapter 371 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, the Public Highways Act, Kevin Caines, the Executive Director Maintenance and Operations of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal hereby orders that:

- a) the Weight Restrictions set out below (hereafter referred to as “Spring Weight Restrictions”), shall apply to public highways in the zones shown for the time period indicated in Table A, and
- b) the roads set out in Appendix 1, attached hereto, are exempt from the Spring Weight Restrictions.

TABLE A

ZONE	WEIGHT RESTRICTION PERIOD
Counties of: Yarmouth, Shelburne, Digby, Annapolis, Queens, Kings and Lunenburg	12:01 am., Monday, February 23, 2009 to 12:01 am., Monday, May 4, 2009
Counties of: Halifax and Hants	12:01 am., Monday, February 23, 2009 to 12:01 am., Monday, May 4, 2009
Counties of: Colchester, Cumberland, Pictou, Antigonish, Guysborough, Richmond, Inverness, Victoria and Cape Breton.	12:01 am., Monday, February 23, 2009 to 12:01 am., Monday, May 4, 2009

### SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

The maximum vehicle and axle weights permitted by this order are as follows:

- (A) Maximum single axle weight of 6,500 kg except single drive school and passenger buses, public utility service trucks, and fire fighting trucks;
- (B) Maximum tandem or triple axle weight of 12,000 kg per axle grouping;
- (C) Maximum tridem or tridem equivalent axle weight of 18,000 kg per axle grouping;
- (D) Maximum gross vehicle weight of 12,000 kg for single drive school and passenger buses, public utility service trucks, and fire fighting trucks that exceed 6,500 kg on a single axle;

Exemptions are as follows:

- (a) public utility service trucks while responding to emergency situations, where an emergency situation includes the restoration of services or the establishment of new services to occupied buildings.
- (b) fire fighting trucks while responding to emergency situations, where an emergency situation includes attending actual fires, medical crises, motor vehicles accidents, and assisting in fire investigations.
- (c) trucks hauling bulk milk and solid waste (garbage haulers) are permitted to haul 80% of normal axle loads, steering axles are permitted to carry registered weight to a maximum of 6,500 kg;

these haulers must apply to Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations for a special permit for each vehicle transporting one of the above mentioned products (no cost to the carrier)

The Special Permit will come with the following conditions that must be adhered to:

- the exact route(s) to be taken must be submitted by the carrier and identified on the special permit
- the special permit must be in the vehicle at all times and must be available for presentation to a Compliance Officer
- the vehicle must be transporting one of the above mentioned products only
- the vehicle must travel only the route(s) identified on the Special Permit

For purposes of this Order, the following Definitions apply:

- I. **“Single Axle”** means an axle which transfers the load carried by it approximately equally to the wheel or wheels attached to each end of the axle.
- II. **“Tandem-Axle”** means an axle assembly containing two (2) consecutive axles whose centres are not less than 1.20 metres apart or greater than 1.85 metres apart;

- 2.1 attached to the vehicle in such a manner that the load on the axle group is equalized on the two (2) axles, and
- 2.2 equipped with brakes on both axles.
- III. **“Triple-Axle”** means an axle assembly of three (3) consecutive axles with the centres of no two (2) consecutive axles less than 1.20 metres apart, and
  - 3.1 attached to the vehicle in such a manner that the load on the axle group is equalized on three (3) axles, and
  - 3.2 equipped with brakes on all three axles.
- IV. **“Tridem-Axle”** means an axle group of three (3) consecutive, equally spaced axles within a vehicle that does not include any liftable or self-steering axles, and that has the same number and size of tires on each axle;
  - 4.1 tridem equivalent axle means an axle group that is made up of three (3) consecutive, equally spaced axles within a vehicle and that has all lift axles lowered and the same number and size, and that has the same number and size of tires on each axle;
  - 4.2 minimum outside axle spacing from 2.40 metres to a maximum of 3.70 metres.
- V. **“Gross Vehicle Weight”** means the sum of the individual axle weights of all axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles.

## Interested in media training?

MANS has the opportunity to host a media training sessions for our members in the spring. This would be a two day event and we would, of course, work to schedules as much as we can.

The objective of the course would be to help participants perform effectively and comfortably in various electronic media formats. You will learn some dos and don'ts for interviews; how to manage a scrum; how to build media relationships and why they will serve your interests; and, have a chance to see yourself perform in TV interviews and get feedback on how to improve your performance.

To make this happen, we will need at 12 participants willing to pay \$500.

Please contact the MANS office if you are interested by calling (902) 406-7625 or by email to [info@tmans.ca](mailto:info@tmans.ca) .



The statements and points of view expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors, and are not necessarily those of the Mining Association of Nova Scotia or its editor(s).

We welcome your letters and articles to the newsletter.

Please send your comments to:  
Editor

MANS Newsletter  
15 Dartmouth Road, Suite 300  
Bedford NS  
B4A 3X6

Email: [michelle@tmans.ca](mailto:michelle@tmans.ca)  
(please use subject line:  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLE)



**Annual General Meeting**

Tuesday, April 7-Wednesday, April 8, 2009

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

*Names of additional attendees included in this form (e.g.:*


**Have you booked your room yet? Call the Citadel Halifax at 1-800-565-7162 and mention MANS.**

**Registration Options:** Please check the events you will be attending. We will be ordering meals from this information; please be accurate and indicate number of people (if this form is registering more than one person).

**April 7**      *Annual General Meeting and Opening Reception*  # \_\_\_\_

**April 8**      *Breakfast*  # \_\_\_\_ *Technical Sessions*  # \_\_\_\_ *Lunch*  # \_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees are:** \$ 65.00 for April 7<sup>th</sup> only  
 \$80.00 for April 8<sup>th</sup> only  
 \$125.00 for both days

**Payment: Cheques can be mailed to:**

MANS, 15 Dartmouth Road, Suite 300, Bedford, Nova Scotia, B4A 3X6

*Please use the area below to notify us of any special dietary requirements or allergies you may have.*

**Mining Association of Canada (MAC) Activity Alerts**

**Post-Budget Meeting with NRCan – Request for Feedback.** MAC met on February 6 with the policy advisor to the Natural Resources Minister responsible for mining issues. The purpose of the meeting was to review the recent federal budget and to discuss “next steps”. In this regard, Minister Raitt is seeking thoughts from the mining industry with respect to the following point:

The budget announced the creation of a \$1 billion, two-year federal “Community Adjustment Fund” that will be delivered through the regional development agencies. The intent of the fund is to mitigate the short-term impacts of restructuring in communities. As noted in the budget, the fund could support activities ...that foster economic development, science and technology initiatives, and other measures to promote economic diversification. The exact parameters of this fund are presently being developed. NRCan would like the parameters to be broadly defined – so that activities such as rehabilitation of mine sites, remediation of properties, and a range of other comparable activities could conceivably be supported. They would welcome thoughts from MAC within a few days with respect to the kinds of activities or projects that may be under consideration by the mining industry that, if they proceeded, could create or sustain jobs in the community. MAC would welcome any thoughts that readers may have on this issue by **February 12**. Please contact Paul Stothart ([pstothart@mining.ca](mailto:pstothart@mining.ca)) or Maggie Papoulias ([mpapoulias@mining.ca](mailto:mpapoulias@mining.ca)) in this regard

**Canadian Boreal Initiative.** As most of you are aware, MAC has signed an MOU with the Canadian Boreal Initiative (CBI). As part of that MOU, CBI and MAC meet periodically to discuss activities of mutual interest. Representatives from CBI addressed the last Environment Committee meeting in the fall of 2008 and met again last week with MAC's VP of Sustainable Development, Julie Gelfand. CBI will be working closely with certain MAC members on mining issues in BC and Ontario and have already met with many provincial mining and exploration associations in these provinces. As well, CBI recently hosted a First Nations Leadership Council Mining Summit in BC. CBI hopes to help improve provincial and federal policy in the areas of consent and land use planning across the country. For more information, contact [jgelfand@mining.ca](mailto:jgelfand@mining.ca)