

Christmas 2008

December 14, 2008

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our friends

We are getting ready to forward updates to our web site and will be including a picture of St. James U.C. Heritage Building since the restoration of the exterior was completed this summer. The Board of Directors would like to acknowledge and thank Mr. David MacDonald and his crew at Jacko Contracting for their excellent work. We thank them for their professionalism and the support they have provided to the Society.

The Board of Directors is pleased to report that the restoration of the outside walls of the building has been completed this year. To date the restoration of the roof, bell tower, foundation, and all exterior walls have been completed. The Society was very fortunate to receive, this spring, a grant of fifteen thousand dollars from the Halifax Regional Municipality Heritage Program. The Board of Directors had applied for a grant to the Heritage Program in March of 2008 and were very pleased with the fifteen thousand dollars that was received toward the restoration of the side walls of the building. This grant, in conjunction with monies raised through fund raising, allowed the Society to complete the restoration of the outside of the building this year. (Please note that this does not include window restoration that is an on going project at Board level)

During the spring and summer of 2009 the Board will be focusing upon the restoration of the interior of the building, upgrading of the grounds and installation of a ramp/step for the building.

The Board of Directors will also be exploring the possibility of installing an interpretation board on the grounds within the next year.

Once again, we wish to extend to you the Society Members and all our friends a sincerest thank you for your support. Without your support and encouragement this project would not have been as successful as it has. The old adage, "many hands make light work" certainly rings true here.

It has been a great privilege for us, as a board, to be able to meet and get to know or become reacquainted with many fine and generous people as this project evolved. We all share a common goal and desire – to honor and preserve our cultural roots and the desire to pass on this cornerstone of our past to future generations so they may experience a visual and tactile site that represents a vibrant heritage background that compliments their circle of life.

2009 look like a busy and active year for the Society as we strive toward meeting the goals listed above. Once again, our sincerest thank you and best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2009.

St. James United Church Heritage Society

