

Future of Sable Island and Station looking much brighter: Good News Coincides with Annual Event

Participants at a recent meeting of the Sable Island Stakeholder Advisory Committee were informed that the federal government has committed to funding the Station for another five years and is looking at ways to provide even longer term funding . This welcome news comes on the eve of the Fourth Annual Sable Island Event which provides an opportunity for the public to learn about what's been happening on the Island over the last year, in particular, research activities.

This is very encouraging, said Zoe Lucas. Every year at our annual event we are asked about the future of the Station and this year we are able to provide people with a positive update.

In the last decade funding for the Station has been shaky and one point there was even talk of closing the Station. Public concern encouraged the previous government to reconsider and pledge to keep the Station open. However, the details about funding for the Station were not clear. This recent news about funding provides clarity.

As long as the Station remains in operation Canada can maintain a year-round human presence on the Island which is considered essential to protect the ecological integrity of the Island and to act as a platform for a range of services.

For the past decade there has been varying degrees of uncertainty about the future of the Station. That uncertainty has been largely put to rest and now everybody can focus on the important stuff: the research, the provision of support services, and stewardship of the island says Mark Butler, Ecology Action Centre.

The Province of Nova Scotia has also committed to funding the Station over the long-term.

There will be four speakers at Tuesday night's event which is taking place at the Sobey Building, Saint Mary's University from 7:00 to 9:30.

Jack MacDonald, Consulting Petroleum Geologist on Geology
David Richardson, Dean Emeritus, Saint Mary's University on Lichens
Philip McLoughlin, Biology Department, University of Saskatchewan on Horses
Zoe Lucas, Sable Island on the Island

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Speakers