

Nova Scotia Fishing Fly Has Its Day

By Tony Rodgers

It took a year, but then good things are worth waiting for. The Nova Scotia Fishing Fly has had its day at the Nova Scotia Legislature and although it was not the very best we could have hoped for, it had a reasonable conclusion.

The fly, chosen in a contest and tied by the winner Bill Carpan of Guysborough County and now the property of the Federation, was recognized as the official Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters Fishing Fly by a unanimous decision by the House, and will be used by the province in the promotion of recreational angling in the province.

I want to personally thank Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister Ron Chisholm for all of his hard work and persistence in getting us to this point. I understand there were more than a few meetings on the subject.

Thanks also goes to Greg Roach and Murray Hill of Mr. Chisholm's department who worked hard with government lawyers to make this a reality.

Below is an excerpt from the House assembly.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Hon. Ronald Chisholm: Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters and talk about an initiative they carried out to further promote the sport fishing industry in Nova Scotia. We are fortunate today to have several members of the Federation in attendance in your Gallery, and I would like to introduce them. We have Darlene Caldwell, president of the Federation of Anglers and Hunters; Mike Pollard, 1st vice-president; Tony Rodgers, executive

director; Bill Carpan and his wife Brenda Carpan from Guysborough County; Kelly Kaiser from Guysborough County; as well as members of the Halifax Wildlife Association, the oldest wildlife organization in North America. I would ask that they rise and receive the warm welcome of the House.

Mr. Speaker, the Federation of Anglers and Hunters is a provincial organization that promotes outdoor recreation activities in Nova Scotia. The organization works with the province as we manage our fish and our wildlife species. They are also a strong voice for the interests of their members, as we manage many of the province's natural resources. The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture has an excellent working relationship with the Federation. Their members sit on the Department's Inland Fisheries Advisory Committee, and they are active participants in our regional advisory process that assists us in managing our sport fishery. The Federation is a champion of recreational fishing, and its members are proactive in promoting this sector.

Today, I want to pay special attention to one recent initiative of this organization. Mr. Speaker, the Federation ran a contest to design a fishing fly that would represent angling in the province and carry a story about the people of Nova Scotia. Seventy-six entries were received from the United States, Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces. The winning entry was announced at the outdoor Sport and RV Show in Halifax in March 2006. Guess what, Mr. Speaker? The winner of the contest is Mr. Bill Carpan, who just happens to be a constituent of mine from Stillwater, Guysborough County.

The winning fly has a silver and blue pattern, with white and gold, and sports the colours of the Nova Scotia

flag. The various colours in the fly represent significant aspects of our province. The black hook symbolizes the coal seams that run through Nova Scotia, while the red nose on the fly is representative of aspects of ceremonies by the Mi'kmaq, as well as beautiful sunsets. The white wings represent the background of the provincial flag, as well as the crashing of the waves along our shores. The green underwing signifies our diversified forests, used for work and recreation. The blue hackle symbolizes our historical link to Scotland. The red butt of the fly stands for the Royal Lion that is found in the centre of the flag and the Shield of Arms, as well as the red maple leaf that represents Canada. The gold and silver tag represents prosperity, and the gold tail points upward in the direction we want to grow as a province. Finally, the silver body represents the strength of Nova Scotia and our future.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Federation of Anglers and Hunters for their initiative and their continuous efforts to promote the sport fishery. Our sport fishery contributes significantly to the economy, and the Nova Scotia fishing fly is one more way for us to promote sport fishing in our province. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member for Shelburne.

Mr. Sterling Belliveau: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to echo the minister's comments and thank the minister for the opportunity to speak to this. I congratulate the winner, Bill, on his work. I too would like to applaud the Federation of Anglers and Hunters, to promote the sport fishery. Many of their members are from Shelburne County, where hunting and fishing is a part of our culture.

Mr. Speaker, the honourable Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture recognized the colour scheme of this award-winning fishing fly, and I just want to comment that politics and fly fishing is a lot alike. Presentation is everything. Usually, after a few years of successful sales of this award-winning fly, a new improved one may come forward. May I dare to suggest some orange color, if you really want to catch the big one. Congratulations. Thank you.

the minister's comments, and my colleague's, the member for Shelburne. I congratulate the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters. I have been a fisherman all my life, commercial. I have done a little sport fishing. I see this hook is not real sharp, so I can't use it.

Anyway, I believe what the Federation has done over the years is greatly appreciated by anybody who is involved in any kind of fishing. The coastal communities of this province should be looking at the Federation

the greatest things that has ever occurred in this province from day one, inshore and coastal communities. As I say, and I will say it again, I just wish that our coastal communities had people like those in the Federation, to work with us, but I don't know if DFO would ever let that happen. It's worth looking into. I thank you very much for being here today.

Government Notices of Motion

Mr. Speaker: The honourable Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Resolution No. 2535

Hon. Ronald Chisholm: Mr. Speaker, I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters is a leader in promoting outdoor recreational activities in our province; and

Whereas the Federation held a contest to select a Nova Scotia fly to promote angling in the province; and

Whereas the federation selected the winning fly tied by Mr. Bill Carpan of Stillwater, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House congratulate Mr. Carpan on his win and applaud the efforts of the Federation of Anglers and Hunters to promote sport fishing in the province with the designation of this Nova Scotia fishing fly as the official fly of the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice.

Mr. Speaker: There has been a request for waiver.

Is it agreed?

It is agreed.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried. 🐟



Shown is contest winner Bill Capen from Guysborough County with Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister Ron Chisholm, during a reception after the Nova Scotia Fishing Fly was proclaimed in the House.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member for Digby-Annapolis.

Mr. Harold Theriault: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I too want to echo

and the work they have done in the inland fisheries. There is only one thing more that I think should be pursued, that is to teach our young people what the fishery is all about and what it means to this province. It's one of