

PSAC Members assist with New Brunswick Floods



On the morning of May 2nd, the Canadian Coast Guard received a call from New Brunswick EMO to assist with the efforts of the rising waters of the Saint John River. Environmental Response from Saint John, Charlottetown, Dartmouth, and Port Hawkesbury gathered their equipment and answered the call. Landing craft, called Sea Trucks and crews from Charlottetown, Saint John and Dartmouth as well as crew from Port Hawkesbury were mustered and on their way by mid day. The first sea trucks arrived on scene and launched by late afternoon. Early evening the crews from Charlottetown and Saint John received their first mission to assist DND who already in the process of rescuing a herd of milk and beef cattle numbering approximately 150 from down river. The Coast Guard was tasked with rescuing the smaller animals as they had the best vessels to carry out that task. The rescue of the animals went without any problems and were loaded on tractor trailer transport trucks and relocated to the Sussex area. Additional missions for the Coast Guard were to load emergency supplies, such as limited quantities of gasoline and diesel, water, and food rations on the Sea Trucks to act as a floating platform and various fire department and other vessels would take the supplies to those who required them. The Coast Guard was also tasked with removing floating debris and propane tanks from the river. On Monday, May 5th, the waters were lowering. Coast Guard was no longer required to assist and packed up their equipment and returned to their respective areas. Those from the Environmental Response branch of the Coast Guard who responded were Ron MacKay, Ryan Green, Allan Loughran, Paul Roberts, Willard Kelly, Jake MacDonald, Tom Wilkinson, Mike Earle, Chris Purcell, and Vanity Mistry.