

# Press Release

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## Town of Witless Bay gears up to establish Guinness World Record for biggest puffin ever made out of garbage

**WITLESS BAY, NL** – The Town of Witless Bay is home to the Witless Bay Ecological Reserve, which contains North America's largest colony of Atlantic Puffins (with over 260,000 mating pairs) and the second largest colony of Leach's Storm Petrels in the world (with over 620,000 pairs). Witless Bay also has a Puffin and Petrel Patrol, which works to rescue stranded chicks and return them safely to the ocean (see the mini-documentary on this here: <http://youtu.be/mtSHVHE4fj0>).

As such, the Town of Witless Bay has a special duty to protect the environment. In order to raise awareness about this important responsibility, the Town is teaming up with the area's Kinsmen Club and the Witless Bay Community Enhancement Committee to make the 2014 Kinsmen Community Cleanup a record-breaking event.

The Witless Bay Kinsmen launched the annual Community Cleanup six years ago as a way of getting the community to band together and work towards a common goal.

On SATURDAY, MAY 10th (weather permitting), residents will scour the ditches and the beaches, collecting garbage and debris. In order to demonstrate the impact of pollution on the nearby bird sanctuary, volunteers will then attempt to establish a Guinness World Record by constructing the biggest puffin ever made out of garbage!

The event starts at 8:00am at St. Bernard Elementary School, and is sponsored by the Town of Witless Bay, St. Bernard Elementary School, Witless Bay Home Hardware (who is generously providing gloves and safety equipment), and Tim Hortons (who will be providing prizes, refreshments and snacks).

The Town of Witless Bay is a traditional Newfoundland outport community located thirty kilometres from St. John's on the popular Irish Loop. Home to the Witless Bay Ecological Reserve, the town is the setting for Howard Norman's novel, *The Bird Artist*.

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