

N.B. Chamber of Commerce President Rick LeBlanc congratulates Cocagne-Notre Dame founding president Germaine Montague.

## Chamber of Commerce Cocagne-Notre Dame chapter inaugurated

By Rvette LeBlanc  
Correspondent

COCAGNE (Special) — Two Kent County Communities have joined forces to form the Cocagne-Notre Dame Chamber of Commerce.

The linkup followed a series of meetings by a provisional committee and help from the Kent Industrial Commission of Bouctouche.

The new chamber is the 46th in the province, said guest speaker Richard (Rick) LeBlanc, president of the New Brunswick Chamber of Commerce. He congratulated representatives of both communities, noting that St. Louis and Grande-Digue had recently joined the organization.

LeBlanc said support from at least 75 per cent of the local business community would be needed to ensure success in its objectives.

These objectives need not necessarily be aimed at only promoting commercial aspects but can also be geared to the district's social and civic well-being as stated in the organization's bylaws. The two villages have a combined total of about 120 commercial establishments.

At the provincial level, LeBlanc explained, chamber officials concern themselves with improving the high illiteracy rate in New Brunswick.

"Upgrading of roads, the Goods and Services Tax, free trade; all are topics discussed whenever the occasion presents itself when meeting with government officials," LeBlanc said.

The provincial president also noted Partnership '90, a forum for New Brunswick and Maine business people, to be held in Fredericton April 5-6. Sponsored by the New Brunswick and Maine chambers, panel discussion topics will include free trade, transportation, border policies and marketing studies.

Speakers at the meeting are to include Premier Frank McKenna, Maine Governor John McKernan, N.B. Power Chairman Rayburn Doucett and federal Trade Minister John Crosbie.

LeBlanc concluded his address by urging the district's business sector "to make a commitment of support to the chamber of commerce in order to guarantee its success, not only for their benefit but for the benefit of the entire community."

The president of the new Kent County chamber is Germaine Montague.

She said the executive council would welcome any and all ideas and urged members to come forward with suggestions. About 12 persons paid their \$20 fee to sign up during the Monday night meeting.

Other officers include vice-president Brian Taylor, secretary Jacques Cormier and treasurer Adrian Leger. Directors are Albert Leger, Maurice Boudreau, Jean Goguen, Roger Despres and Dorca Pellerin.