

History of Dildo Name

It seems like the name of our fair town (Dildo) has attracted some attention albeit on the condescending type but hey attention is attention. I must apologize to all that came before that I hadn't addressed the very interesting point about our name sake and that it is not a town of perverts but rather a picturesque, historic seaside town on the Eastern shores of Trinity Bay, Newfoundland with a proud seafaring history of fishing, whaling and sealing.

Even though some of these ways of obtaining a livelihood are not the politically correct thing to do today notably whaling and sealing and the government has put a moratorium on cod fishing...

I don't mean to ramble. Back to the name Dildo. The history of the name varies depending on whom you speak to but basically it come down to three basic thoughts.

1. It is thought the name came from a place in Portugal/Spain or
2. Imore can one go to Gay Side or Hibbs Hole as they now have more politically t is the name of an algonquin tree or
3. It comes from the shape of the headland that forms Dildo harbour.

Take your pick it doesn't really matter. The name has survived the passage of time and while some of the faint of heart in the region want the name to be changed as they have done in other places. No correct names I hope our namesake will endure. If it was good enough for our fore fathers it shall be good enough for us.

Located in Upper Trinity South, Dildo is a very historic place that was settled in the early 1800's by Reids, Prettys, and Smiths during the 1990's, these names were still predominant names in the community.

In 1889 a permanent fisheries commission was set up for the Colony and a fishery was established on Dildo Island under the direction of A. Neilson, Superintendent of the Fisheries. This hatchery was one of the most modern and largest of its type in the world, and was designed to hatch between two million and three million cod in a season. A spawning pond was added in 1891 and a 5.5 m high wind mill to provided the power to pump sea water into the pond.

In the Twentieth Century dildo was a flourishing whaling centre until the ban on whaling in the early 1970's brought this industry to a close. The closing of the whaling industry also had an effect on the mink ranches because it depended on whale meat as a cheap source of food. In 1955 an entire mink farm was transported from Lester Island, near Vancouver, to Dildo but in the late 1960' rising feed prices forced the ranches to close. Dildo has changed a lot since the 1800's mainly of its economic growth. There are a lot more businesses and resources that have been created and up-dated since this time. There are 2 stores in Dildo and there is another little store that should be open in the next month or two. There are about four or five people in Dildo who have started their own businesses which continues to grow.

Even though Dildo doesn't have a town council it still has many resources and regarded for its activities. Dildo has it's own swimming pool, an S.U.F. lodge, and Lions Center. There is also a baseball field but it's old and falling down so it is rarely used. Every year Dildo celebrates Canada Day and our own Traditional Dildo Days. These events are held on the swimming pool grounds where there are many activities, such as games, swimming, hot dogs, cold plates, and much more. As you can see Dildo is a very historic and traditional community.