

# Women leaving Tatamagouche, not Mabou

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The Cape Breton Post

SYDNEY — The women won't be leaving Mabou.

Paperny Films announced Tuesday the renewal of the CBC hit series *The Week the Women Went* and its new home site of Tatamagouche, which was selected over the community of Mabou.

"Ultimately, the people of Mabou were fabulous, they welcomed us, but I guess the enthusiasm of the people of Tatamagouche was just a little more overt," said Cal Shumiatcher, executive producer of *The Week the Women Went*.

"I guess the crew felt ultimately that Tatamagouche was more ready to take the challenge." Shumiatcher said the decision was a difficult one for all involved and he said the final choice was simply one which had to be made.

"I'll tell you what it wasn't, it wasn't the beauty of the town because Mabou is one gorgeous place," he said.

"It was an amazingly tight and hard decision and I can say for sure, our crew would have been thrilled to do it in either town, no question about it ...

"I'm sorry we're not going to Mabou in a lot of ways, but ultimately you have to choose one, you can't do it everywhere."

And Shumiatcher wouldn't rule out the possibility of coming back to Cape Breton at some time in the future.

"We would like to believe that the series could run for a long time and we could do a lot of the other towns in Canada, that surprisingly, many of us don't know much about," he said.

"We've heard the names or know of a famous person from there, but we don't know much else."

"That's what is great about this show, it showcases these places to the rest of the country."

Moving forward, Shumiatcher is looking forward to coming to Nova Scotia and is excited to begin production in Tatamagouche.

"We were thrilled with the warm reception we received from the Tatamagouche community," said Shumiatcher.

"We are very excited about profiling this unique Maritime village to create the second season of this hit show."

In season two of *The Week the Women Went*, the women of Tatamagouche will leave the men to fend for themselves and their families for one long week this coming September.

With high stakes and tough challenges, season two will ensure the men must do a lot more than the bare minimum to survive.

Part social experiment, part docu-soap, each episode will chronicle the drama, humour, frustration and fun that occurs when the men in this small fishing village are pushed to their limits.

The series is slated to air on CBC Television in January 2009.

Production will begin in September.

The first season was the highest rated new Canadian series of Canada's entire winter 2008 broadcast season.