

# The women will be leaving Tatmagouche

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By Harry Sullivan

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TATAMAGOUCHE — The women of Tatamagouche are going away.

This North Shore village has been selected as the community of choice to star in the second season of the hit CBC television series - The Week The Women Went.

"We got it!" Treva Stewart, screamed over the phone, as she repeated the response of a friend who had just come running into her hair salon to share the news, which she said was spreading like wildfire throughout the community.

"It travelling faster than anything I've ever heard in Tatamagouche," she said. "It's pretty exciting. The girls, we're just going to be crazy. There's a lot of stay-at-home moms here who have been cooped up too long."

While the women were celebrating, however, Stewart said she doubted the men in the community were feeling the same way.

"Dread," she described, with a chuckle in reference to the mood of her husband Micah, an outdoorsman who had just arrived home and heard the news.

"It's the first day of bear season," she added, of the September date the community will lose its women.

During the taping of season two, the women of Tatamagouche will be spirited off to an undisclosed location to be pampered, leaving the men to fend for themselves and their families for "one long week."

But while the men will face tough challenges, Stewart (a mother of two) said some women such as herself will also have sacrifices to make.

"I'm still going to have a hard time because I have a (nursing) baby who is like Velcro to me," she said. "It's going to be a challenge."

Nonetheless, she said, the women will try to make the best of things.

"We're just really, really, really ecstatic," she said. "We're going to let loose. Maybe they're going to have to censor some of it."

Tatamagouche won out over the community of Mabou (the home of Premier Rodney MacDonald) in the final rundown to find the community best suited to represent the show in its second season.

The show is produced by Paperny Films and is slated to run on CBC Television next January. "We we're thrilled with the warm reception we received from the Tatamagouche community,"

said executive producer Cal Shumiatcher, of the network's choice. "We are very excited about profiling this unique Maritime village to create the second season of this hit show."

The show is described as part social experiment, part docu-soap, with each episode designed to chronicle "the drama, humour, frustration and fun that occurs when the men in this small fishing village are pushed to their limits."

During a meeting in late April with the show's producers, more than 200 people packed a local gymnasium to convince them that Tatamagouche should be the chosen community. As a display of their support, women showed up with suitcases in hand while the men turned out clad in dresses and wigs.

Stewart said late Tuesday afternoon that the news was too fresh and the excitement too high to think beyond the moment but she said they would undoubtedly be planning a reception to whoop it up.