North Renfrew Telephone Company con't.

April 2016

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Many local men were involved in the early telephone success of NRTCO:

- Basil Brown acted as secretary manager from 1941 until he became secretary-treasurer and trouble man. He retired in 1975.
 Bills were written out by hand. Maintenance and upgrading of the telephone system were continually challenging.
- Ed Foster was NRTCO's board president from 1957 until 1974.
- Robert T. McLaughlin founded the Alba exchange in Greenwood which had eight lines connected to it. These lines included Snake River Telephone Association and Perreton.
- Many local men served as trouble men working on the lines.

Mr Brown investigated the feasibility of converting to the dial system in the early 1950's.

Conversion to the dial system was made in Westmeath in 1961. NRTCO was one of the first independent telephone companies to advance to the dial system.

NRTCO installed the leading edge "digital switch" in 1989.

The first computer was purchased in 1993 and several connecting lines were installed. In 1993, 1994 fibre optics cable was laid from Beachburg to Pembroke.

By 1996, a plan to provide local internet service was explored and approved.

The first NRTCO internet service was connected in 1997.