

April 23, 2009

Brian Smith, CAO
Municipality of the County of Kings
P.O. Box 100
Kentville, NS B4N 3W3

Re: Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Nomination Process

As you are aware, Kings CED Agency is a partner on the Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Nomination Process. The purpose of the nomination process is to submit a proposal to the World Heritage Committee seeking the inscription of Grand Pré onto the world heritage list. Such an honor would, among other benefits, bring international recognition to the value of Grand Pré, would ensure that mechanisms are in place to preserve the value of the proposed area of designation, and would provide broader economic opportunity to the region as a result of increased tourism.

In 2008, representatives from the project's Steering Committee visited your municipality to provide an overview and update on the initiative. Since that time, the project has been progressing and the Advisory Board has recently completed a Communications Plan, developed the statement of Outstanding Universal Value and has conducted preliminary work on the development of the Management Plan Working Committee. Community engagement and consultations are also ongoing, with a draft community vision and objectives recently being developed and supported by the Grand Pré and Area Community Association. A website, www.nominationgrandpre.ca, has been developed to share our progress with all involved stakeholders and I encourage you to visit the site regularly to follow our journey.

To demonstrate broad support for this significant initiative, the Board of Directors of the Kings CED Agency is requesting that all municipalities in the Valley region consider the attached motion at their next council meeting. By formally supporting this motion, our region will be able to demonstrate that municipalities stand united around their support for the project and collectively recognize the value that a successful nomination proposal will bring to our region.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of this motion. Please do not hesitate to contact Erin Beaudin, Executive Director of Kings CED and Nomination Grand Pré Advisory Board Co-Chair at 678-1340 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Hugh Simpson
Chairperson
Kings CED Agency

cc: Ryan MacNeil, Executive Director, Hants RDA
Christophe Rivet, Nomination Grand Pre Project Manager, Parks Canada
Gérald Boudreau, Co-Chair, Nomination Grand Pré

Motion:

Whereas Grand Pré has been identified by Canada as a candidate for possible World Heritage Designation; and

Whereas the Outstanding Universal Value report prepared by a team of academics and scholars as part of the Nomination Grand Pré process has identified that Grand Pré is of note to all of humanity due to its unique characteristics and history; and

Whereas the designation of Grand Pré as a World Heritage location would bring economic benefits to the entire valley region through increased tourism, business and recreational opportunities; and

Whereas many stakeholders, including the Societe Pomotion Grand Pre, Societe National de L'Acadie, the First Nations, the provincial and federal governments, the Municipality of Kings, Kings CED , the Grand Pré Marsh Body, Eastern Kings Chamber of Commerce, Kings Hants Heritage Connection, Destination SouthWest Nova Scotia and representatives of the local community have come to together to work collaboratively to submit a dossier to UNESCO seeking World Heritage Designation

Be it resolved that Municipal Council endorse the nomination of Grand Pré as a World Heritage Site.

