

**UNESCO World Heritage Nomination Proposal
Grand Pré Cultural Landscape**

**Notes from the August 27th, 2007 meeting
Grand-Pré NHSC**

Meeting chaired by Marianne Gates

Present

Jean-Claude Roy	Société Promotion Grand-Pré
Gérald C. Boudreau	Société Nationale de l'Acadie
Claude DeGrâce	Parks Canada
Louise Watson	Nova Scotia Economic Development
Neal Conrad	Nova Scotia Economic Development
Brian Banks	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Christophe Rivet	Parks Canada
Mary-Jo Mackay	Tourism, Culture and Heritage (Nova Scotia)
Marianne Gates	Kings County Economic Development Association
Beth Keech	Kings-Hants Heritage Connection
John Currie	Chair of the Grand Pré Marsh Body
Mesmin Pierre	Parks Canada (observer)

Regrets

Greg Young	East Hants Chamber of Commerce
John Fuller	Kings County Regional Municipality
Paul d'Entremont	Kings Federation of Agriculture
Vaughne Madden	Office for Acadian Affairs
Chief Shirley Clark	Glooscap First Nation

1. Welcome / Opening of the meeting

Marianne Gates provides an overview of previous meetings. Previous meeting's notes are amended and approved. Roundtable introductions. The proposed objectives are to confirm the governance structure and decide on the next steps.

2. Review the agenda

RESOLUTION: There were no suggested modifications to the Agenda.

3. Governance structure

Christophe Rivet and Claude DeGrâce introduce the principles of the governance structure.

The main recommendations suggested are:

- that the different organizations represented maintain their own governing authority (i.e. ministers for government departments/ agencies, and board of directors for other organizations),
- that the organizations do not relinquish authority over areas under their jurisdiction,
- to include citizen representation;
- to incorporate;
- to consider hiring local people to work on the project;

Gerald Boudreau asked for clarification as to who the decision-making body is. Claude DeGrâce clarifies that the suggestion is for the advisory body to make the strategic decisions. A working group or steering committee would have the ability to make operational decisions.

There was discussion that the name of the advisory body should be the advisory board. There was also discussion about the nature and structure of the steering committee. Christophe Rivet suggested that it may be premature to discuss these matters. He also suggested that it is crucial to get the support of the communities that may directly be affected by the proposal, mainly Grand Pré, North Grand Pré and Hortonville, prior to pursuing the discussions about the governance structure and the resources required. Christophe Rivet recommended that the advisory board be standing in principle until meetings with the communities and the councils were held and there was a better sense of their support for the project.

There was discussion about who and how the community should be approached. The Marsh Body was identified as a very important group. They do not meet on a regular basis but John Currie suggested that a meeting could be organized on 2 weeks notice. The communities of Grand Pré, North Grand Pré and Hortonville are the main ones that may be included in the area proposed for World Heritage designation. Louise Watson suggested that councils should be briefed as soon as possible. John Fuller agreed and indicated that in principle the municipal council supports the idea. Neal Conrad suggested that a communication plan be drafted for that phase of the project with the objective of educating the stakeholders to allow them to make an informed decision. The messages should be reassuring. Neal Conrad indicated that Nova Scotia Communications may be able to provide support. John Currie suggested that the meeting with the Marsh Body and the one with the residents should take place within a couple of weeks of each other. Invitations should be sent simultaneously. Neal Conrad suggested that the participation of members of the advisory body at public meetings should be left open.

RESOLUTIONS: *To add a representative from the town of Wolfville to the advisory body. The principles and structure of the advisory board are accepted in principle. The co-chairs are to be Kings CED and the Société Promotion Grand-Pré (SPGP).*

ACTION: *Kings CED and Parks Canada will present a clearer picture of the terms of references for the steering committee and for the advisory board. Kings CED and Parks Canada will coordinate meetings with the local communities. Kings CED, SPGP, and Parks Canada will develop a draft communication plan.*

4. Citizen representation

Marianne Gates raised the issue of citizen representation on the project. Neal Conrad suggested that members at large of the CED may be interested.

RESOLUTION: *to address the issue at the public meetings and council meetings.*

ACTION: *Marianne Gates will survey the list of members at large for potential interested persons.*

5. Research program

Christophe Rivet provided a short overview of the research program up to date. He indicated that the program had been developed as a collaborative effort between provincial archaeologists and Parks Canada archaeologists and historians. At the time, the latest draft was under review by the provincial archaeologists.

6. Other business

Gerald Boudreau asked a clarification concerning the travel expenses for individuals and members of smaller organizations. Claude DeGrâce indicated that Parks Canada will cover the expenses of the representative of the Société Nationale de l'Acadie and of the FANE until the project is incorporated.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 1st 2007 at 4 PM at Grand-Pré NHSC. It was also agreed in principle that meetings should take place the first Thursday of every month.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM after a quick roundtable check-in on people's impressions.