Landscape of Grand Pré Inc.
Approved Minutes of Board Meeting
May 23, 2025,
189 Dykeland Street, Wolfville, Nova Scotia

In attendance:
Beverly Palmeter (Chair)
Peter Allen
Neil Boucher (Zoom to 10:15 a.m.)
Beverly Boyd
Bruce Cooke
Amy MacDonald
Lara Morris
Cyrilda Poirier

Others:
Claude DeGrâce, Executive Director (ED)
Thomas Deal, Financial Support Services
Tami McEvoy, Administrative Support Services
Catherine Cottreau-Robins, NS CCTH

1. Welcome, verify quorum, call to order
Beverly Palmeter, Chair of Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. (LGPI) welcomed the attendees and called the Board of Directors (Board) meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. having a quorum for the meeting. The Chair invited the directors to introduce themselves as the Board was welcoming three new directors.

2. Review and approval of the agenda

1. Welcome, verify quorum, call to order (5 min)
2. Approval of the agenda (5 min)
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on March 20, 2025 (10 min)
4. Actions arising from the minutes (10 min)
5. Review and approve financial statements to March 31, 2025 (15 min)
6. Update regarding the organizational model and financial sustainability plan (15 min)
7. Outcome of the special meeting of members (15 min)
8. Executive Director report (10 min)
9. Archaeology strategy presentation (15 min) 1:00 p.m.
10. Standing committee reports (30 min) a) Executive b) Technical Advisory
11. Appointments to standing committees (10 min)
12. Annual Meeting of Members (5 min)
13. Board Calendar (5 min)
14. Set the dates for the next Board meetings (10 min)

15. Round Table (10 min)
16. Adjournment *Group photograph

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
Moved by Beverly Boyd, seconded by Peter Allen
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.001**

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on March 20, 2025

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 20, 2025, meeting of the Board.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 20, 2025, as presented.
Moved by Cyrilda Poirier, seconded by Beverly Boyd
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.002**

4. Actions arising from the minutes

a) The strategic plan was completed, translated and published on social media and on the websites.
b) The ED issued a Request for Proposals to retain the services of a consultant to lead the Corporation's Task Force regarding the organizational model and the preparation of a financial sustainability plan. A consultant was retained by the Executive Committee.
c) The ED coordinated a special meeting of members which was held virtually on March 26, 2025.

5. Review and approve the financial statements to March 31, 2025

Thomas Deal presented the financial statements to March 31, 2025, to the Board and addressed follow-up questions regarding line items in the statement of activity and statement of financial position.

MOTION: To approve the financial statements to March 31, 2025.
Moved by Cyrilda Poirier, seconded by Beverly Boyd
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.003**

6. Update regarding the organizational model and financial sustainability plan

The ED explained that no proposals were received following the issue of an RFP to three consultants to lead the Task Force. With the support of the Executive Committee, the ED invited Third Sector Enhancement Ltd. to consider providing a proposal. A proposal was submitted, reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved. The terms of the contract with Third Sector Enhancement Ltd. requires that three virtual workshops be held with the Task Force and that a final report be prepared and submitted to the Board of Directors by July 31, 2025.

7. Outcome of the special meeting of members

The Chair informed the Board of concerns raised by the Grand Pré & Area Community Association (GPACA) at the virtual special meeting of the members held on March 26, 2025. The two areas of

concern identified were the financial sustainability of LGPI and the alleged disrespect directed at the director nominees and the member representatives of the GPACA by the Corporation.

The Chair indicated that as per the LGPI by-laws, the Board of Directors had offered to meet with the Board of Directors of the GPACA in October 2024 but that the offer had not been accepted.

The Chair confirmed that the Executive Committee had met to consider the matters raised by the GPACA and had referred to the Corporation's by-laws and policies with regards to conflict resolution. The Chair suggested that the Board consider extending another invitation to the GPACA to meet with LGPI in an effort to address the issues that were raised. The Chair also informed the Board that the GPACA had extended an invitation to the Grand Pré and area communities to an information session about LGPI on May 29, 2025. The Board expressed concerns that LGPI had not been invited to attend this meeting, failing to respect the principle of inclusion expressed by *Nothing about us without us*, a guiding principle in Truth and Reconciliation efforts, emphasizing that Indigenous peoples' voices and perspectives should be central to any initiatives that affect them.

Break: 10:40 - 11:00

While it was indicated that a meeting with GPACA may be premature, it was agreed that the Corporation should continue to reach out to GPACA to seek a resolution. It was suggested that each organization could nominate two or three directors to attend a small open dialog meeting prior to the Annual Meeting of Members in September 2025.

ACTION: Executive Committee to appoint directors who would offer to meet with the GPACA.
ACTION: ED to draft letter to invite the Board of GPACA to meet with LGPI.

8. Executive Director (ED) report

The ED presented the Executive Director report to the Board covering the following topics:

a. Development of welcome signs and interpretive panels as part of the renewal of the visitor experience for the Landscape. Interpretive texts have been drafted and reviewed by the Education and Marketing Committee. Consultations are underway with the Mi'kmaq.
b. The approved strategic plan has been translated and posted on the websites.
c. In response to the Corporation's application to Canada Summer Jobs to hire three interpretive guides, only one position was approved with funding for eight weeks of work. After discussion it is proposed that LGPI hire two students to support program delivery, data collection and social media efforts.
d. Meetings in April and May included:
    1. Town of Wolfville and Public Works Nova Scotia regarding the adaptive use of the dyke walls for a trail.
    2. Grand-Pré National Historic Site to discuss the proposed locations of the new interpretive and other signs.

3. Municipality of the County of Kings regarding a proposed land use by-law text amendment for the Historic Hamlet of Grand Pré (see TAC's report to the Board).
4. President of the Grand Pré & Area Community Association, and Glyn Bissix, Acadia University, to discuss a proposal to explore the creation of an energy hub in the Grand Pré & Area Community.
5. Kick-off meeting with Third Sector Enhancement Ltd.
6. Société Promotion Grand-Pré has requested that the Corporation consider sponsoring the annual community BBQ which forms part of Acadian Days in mid-July 2025. The cost of the BBQ would be $3,000. It was recommended that the Board approve this sponsorship providing the programming was bilingual and LGPI be given an opportunity to speak at the event.
7. A spring 2025 newsletter was produced and posted on the Landscape's websites and social media.
8. The funding application submitted to the Province of Nova Scotia for the development of a trail from Grand Pré Wines to the View Park was not approved. LGPI has also submitted a funding application to the Municipality of the County of Kings. Further discussions with Grand Pré Wines were suggested.
9. Devour Food and Film Festival have reached out for sponsorship again this year. The Board questioned the return on investment of this sponsorship and suggested that LGPI should look into other promotional opportunities for the 2025 season.

MOTION: That the Board approve the sponsorship of $3,000 for a community BBQ in collaboration with the Société Promotion Grand-Pré's Acadian Days on Sunday, July 13, 2025.
Moved by Bruce Cooke, seconded by Cyrilda Poirier
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.004**

MOTION: That the Board receive the report of the Executive Director as presented.
Moved by Amy MacDonald, seconded by Beverly Boyd
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.005**

Lunch 12:45 - 1:15

9. Archaeology strategy presentation
Catherine Cottreau-Robins, Senior Curator of Archaeology, Nova Scotia Museum (Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage) presented the revised strategy for the management and conservation of the archaeological heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré.

The presentation was followed by discussions regarding archaeological assessments and consultation with all stakeholders including Parks Canada and the Mi'kmaq. The Board suggested that the Education and Marketing Committee be invited to develop a communication plan for the strategy. It was further suggested that an executive summary of the strategy be prepared in both official languages and posted on the websites of LGPI.

The Board asked the ED to draft a letter to thank the members of the subcommittee who prepared the revised strategy.

MOTION: That the Board approve the revised strategy for the management and conservation of the archaeological heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré.
Moved by Beverly Boyd, seconded by Amy MacDonald
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.006**

10. Standing committee reports
a. Executive
Beverly Palmeter, Chair of the Executive Committee (EC), presented the report of the EC which met virtually on April 23, 2025.

MOTION: That the Board of Directors confirm the following decisions of the Executive Committee.
Moved by Amy MacDonald, seconded by Peter Allen
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.007**

> *To award a contract to Third Sector Enhancement Ltd. as per their proposal regarding leading the Task Force to review the organizational model and prepare a financial sustainability plan for Landscape of Grand Pré Inc.*
>
> *To appoint Erin Beaudin, Beverly Boyd, Yvon Fontaine, René Gallant, Emily Lutz, and Bruce Cooke (providing he accepts), as members and Claude DeGrâce as ex-officio member of the Task Force.*

MOTION: That the Board receive the report of the Executive Committee.
Moved by Bruce Cooke, seconded by Amy MacDonald
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.008**

b) Technical Advisory Committee
Presented by Beverly Boyd, Chair, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The Chair of the TAC and the ED were asked by a resident of Grand Pré to consider a proposed land use by-law text amendment to decrease minimum lot frontage requirements in the Historic Hamlet of Grand Pré (A5) Zone (File # 25-10). They attended a public information meeting at the Municipality of the County of Kings regarding the matter on April 16, 2025.
Following the meeting, the ED prepared an analysis of the potential impacts the proposed land use by-law text amendment would have on the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site. The ED's conclusion and recommendation to the TAC were the following:

a) *given the multiple municipal, national and international designations that recognize the exceptional and traditional cultural and rural agricultural landscape of Grand Pré, the*

proposed Land Use By-Law Text Amendment to Decrease Minimum Lot Frontage Requirements in the Historic Hamlet of Grand Pré (A5) Zone (File # 25-10) has the potential to constitute an alteration which could impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the inscribed World Heritage Site;

b) *in order to protect the Outstanding Value of the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site, Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. recommends that the proposed Land Use By-Law Text Amendment to Decrease Minimum Lot Frontage Requirements in the Historic Hamlet of Grand Pré (A5) Zone (File # 25-10) not be approved.*

Shortly after circulating the analysis and recommendations to the TAC, the ED was informed by the Manager of Planning Services at the Municipality of the County of Kings that the applicants had withdrawn their application for an amendment to the land use by-law. As the matter was resolved, no further action was taken.

MOTION: That the Board receive the report of the Technical Advisory Committee as presented.
Moved by Peter Allen, seconded by Amy MacDonald
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.009**

11. Appointment of directors to standing committees

a) Educating and Marketing Committee
   Amy MacDonald - Chair
   Neil Boucher
   Cyrilda Poirier
   Agreed to widen the skill set within the committee

b) Finance Audit Committee
   Lara Morris
   Peter Allen
   Neil Boucher as Chair (with his approval).

c) Governance and Nominating Committee
   Beverly Palmeter
   Amy MacDonald (would consider)
   Agreed to leave the GNC dormant until after the Task Force has completed its report.

ACTION: ED to update the skills matrix required for new directors and add to the agenda for the next meeting of the Board.

MOTION: To appoint Lara Morris and Peter Allen as members of the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) and, with his approval, Neil Boucher as Chair of the FAC.
Moved by Amy MacDonald, seconded by Beverly Boyd
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.010**

12. Annual meeting of Members
The Board suggested the following dates for the 2025 AMM:
September 23, 24 or 25 at 10:00 a.m.
The ED will seek the availability of member representatives.

13. Board Calendar

MOTION: To approve the Board Calendar for 2025 as presented.
Moved by Bruce Cooke, seconded by Beverly Boyd
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.011**

14. Set the dates for the next Board meetings
It was suggested that a virtual meeting be scheduled at the end of July/early August to review the report of the Task Force.
An in-person Board meeting will be scheduled for the beginning of September.

15. Round Table
There was no Round Table discussion.

16. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.
Moved by Peter Allen, seconded by Bruce Cooke
Motion carried unanimously; **Resolution 25BOD.May.23.012**

Approved by the Board: **Resolution 25BOD.September.22.01**

_____
Beverly Palmeter
Chair, Landscape of Grand Pré Inc.