LANDSCAPE of ~ le PAYSAGE de
GRAND★PRÉ
A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE | SITE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL DE L'UNESCO

MANAGEMENT PLAN

LANDSCAPE OF GRAND PRÉ

WORLD HERITAGE SITE

2023

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1.0 Foreword

On June 30, 2012, the Landscape of Grand Pré was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the highest possible international recognition for cultural and natural heritage. It is a distinction that brings attention to an extraordinary place, one already celebrated by various provincial and national designations. The 13 square-kilometer site is located on the Bay of Fundy's Minas Basin in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. UNESCO World Heritage Sites are recognized for their "Outstanding Universal Value" for humanity, having cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations throughout the world.

The development and implementation of a management plan is prescribed in UNESCO's Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Clause 108, "Management Plans"). UNESCO expects every World Heritage Site to have a management plan or a management system as guidance for the effective site management coordination of the World Heritage Site.

This management plan is the outcome of the prior work of Nomination Grand Pré and its management committee. That plan was submitted to UNESCO in 2011 as part of the Nomination dossier. The management plan was later reviewed and updated by the Landscape of Grand Pré Society in a 2014 draft that the authors described as having "articulated the elements of good and responsible stewardship of the Landscape of Grand Pré so as to ensure the passing on to future generations of the shared inherited legacy".

This edition of the management plan reflects the fact that a new federally-incorporated body – Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated— Le Paysage de Grand-Pré Incorporé is now responsible for coordinating the management of the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site.

The most notable updates are:

- "Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated." to replace "Landscape of Grand Pré Society" and "Stewardship Board".
- Changes to reflect current organizational practices.
- Changes arising from Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated's Strategic Plan, approved in 2018.
- Changes to reflect updated statistical information where available.

In keeping with good management practice, Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated will see that the implementation of the plan is documented at regular intervals. A review of the management plan and its implementation is expected to be undertaken no later than 2025. This timing would inform the review of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated's Strategic Plan.

2.0 Introduction and Role of this Management Plan

Grand Pré has a long and rich history. Both natural and cultural features have been commemorated by various authorities over the years. Amongst these are the national wildlife sanctuary on Boot Island, a wetland that is recognized under the UNESCO international Ramsar Convention; the first Rural Historic District of national significance; a national historic site, several national commemorative monuments, a municipal heritage conservation district and several provincially-designated heritage properties and archaeological sites. Many of these heritage areas have plans or frameworks to guide their management and long-term conservation.

The goal of this management plan is to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the Landscape of Grand Pré and its supporting attributes are preserved for present and future generations. In doing so it fulfills the requirements of Clause 108 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2021), which supported the nomination and now subsequent management of the Landscape of Grand Pré as a World Heritage Site.

This management plan serves as an overarching management framework to cohesively guide the protection, conservation and presentation of the inscribed property, both for the proposed site's governance structure and all responsible authorities and involved parties.

This plan identifies the Outstanding Universal Value, the main characteristics of the property, the legislative and policy framework for the management of the property, and the management system in place to protect, present and monitor the site. This plan builds on the Municipality of the County of Kings' commitment to support the development of the communities of Grand Pré, North Grand Pré, Hortonville, and Lower Wolfville through the Grand Pré and Area community plan, the Province of Nova Scotia's commitment to protect marshlands through the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act* and associated regulations and archaeological heritage through the *Special Places Protection Act*, and the Government of Canada's commitment to protect places of national historic significance that it administers. The management approach places great importance on the support of agricultural practice anchored in an agricultural tradition that has evolved over almost 350 years.

3.0 Description of the Inscribed Property

3.1 Description

The inscribed property consists of 1323 hectares of dykelands, (known internationally as polders) and uplands on the southern edge of the Minas Basin, an eastern arm of the Bay of Fundy in western mainland Nova Scotia. It is bordered by the Gaspereau River to the east, the Cornwallis River to the west, Long Island to the north, and parts of the communities of Grand Pré, Hortonville, and Lower Wolfville to the south. Dominating the distant background, beyond the inscribed property, Cape Blomidon extends into the basin as an instantly recognizable landmark.

The first human presence in the area is linked to the Mi'kmaq and their ancestors. L'nu'k have long travelled and lived in the area as the shores of the Minas Basin and the whole of the proposed World Heritage site are part of the *Mi'kma'ki* district of *Sipekni'katik*. There is archaeological evidence of repeatedly occupied settlements over thousands of years along the Gaspereau River and on Long Island

(North Grand Pré), and archaeological evidence and traditional knowledge of burial grounds on Oak Island, Boot Island and in and near Wolfville. Mi'kmaq typically harvested a wide range of resources in estuarine environments like the one that existed at Grand Pré: waterfowl, fish, shellfish, sea mammals, and medicinal plants for food, social and ceremonial purposes that continue today. Mi'kmaq harvested the resources they needed from the area on a seasonal basis continuously over thousands of years, such as when certain fish species migrated through adjacent waters, when huge flocks of migratory birds came to the area to rest and fatten up and as certain plants came into their various seasons. The earliest record of their presence in the proposed World Heritage Site boundary comes from the discovery in 2009 of a Mu Awsami Saqewe'k L'nu'k (Middle Archaic Period), full-channeled ground-stone gouge from circa 9000-6000 BP, though occupation of the area from at least the time of Saqewe'k L'nu'k (Late Palaeoindian Period 11 000 – 9 500 BP) has been recorded at the headwaters of the Gaspereau River. Material evidence such as stone tools, paleoethnobotanical samples, faunal remains, hearths, caches pits, habitation, logistical and processing sites, including that from the nearby Scots Bay quarries, suggests that the Grand Pré area was at the nexus of an important trading network for the Mi'kmaq.

The Minas Basin figures prominently in the history, legends, and spirituality of the Mi'kmaq, especially Cape Blomidon, which was and is the most dominant feature on the landscape in the overall Grand Pré area. This is the setting for the stories of Kluskap (Glooscap) and the Whale, Kluskap battle with the Beaver, and Kluskap and Lazy Rabbit. These stories and more confirm the spiritual and cultural importance of the area for the Mi'kmaq.

All this material and oral tradition evidence and more suggest that the Grand Pré and area is archaeologically important for Mi'kmaw heritage.

When the first Europeans arrived at the area that is now Nova Scotia in the 16th century, they found willing trading partners in the Mi'kmaq who had developed sophisticated trading networks over the millennia. During the succeeding centuries, Mi'kmaw territory, including the rich coastline, was gradually impacted by European settlements and intense competition for the region's resources ensued. The relationship between the French authorities and the Mi'kmaq was positive and led to alliances, one of the first resulting from the historic baptism of Kji Saqamaw (Grand Chief Henri) Membertou in 1610, the first indigenous person to be baptized in what would later become Canada.

The inscribed property includes the dykeland area that the Acadians created in the 17th century, which successive generations of farmers have expanded. It also includes distinctive representative sections of the Acadian settlement and of the current agricultural community, as well as the entire planned settlement for the New England Planters, a British town grid.

Since the time of the first Acadian settlement in the 17th century, people have continuously worked these dykelands. The inscribed property also includes parts of the hamlet of Grand Pré, which hosts provincially and federally designated heritage properties and some local services, plus farms on the hills and an expanse of fields and pastures. At the heart of both the property and the Acadian settlement, lies Grand-Pré National Historic Site. The national historic site consists of the commemorative gardens, the Memorial Church, archaeological resources, and many other memorials to the Acadian Deportation.

The entirety of the inscribed property can be seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1 - 2002 Aerial view of the Grand Pré marshland and its characteristic patchwork of fields. In the top right corner is the Boot Island National Wildlife Sanctuary. Top: Long Island, which is outside the boundaries of the inscribed property and is part of the buffer. The boundary of the inscribed property is indicated in yellow.

3.2 Location and Boundaries

The geographical coordinates (to the nearest second) for the approximate centre of the inscribed property are:

LATITUDE 45° 7' 6" North, and LONGITUDE 64° 18' 26" West

The inscribed property is situated in Nova Scotia, in Eastern Canada. The property encompasses 1323.24 hectares of land. It is protected from the waters of the Minas Basin in the Bay of Fundy by 5.53 kilometres of dykes. It extends 4.4 kilometres east to west along Highway 1 in the north-eastern corner of the County of Kings, east of the Town of Wolfville.

The boundary was delimited to include all of the areas that have been dyked from the 1680s up to the present day that are under the management of the Grand Pre Marsh Body, and that continues to

support exclusive agricultural use. It also includes the Acadian-initiated settlement on the uplands and includes the lands that host the memorials associated with the Acadian Deportation.

The boundary of the inscribed property (shown in Figures 1 and 2) follows, on the north side, the boundary of the marshland as defined in the designation under the Nova Scotia *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*. Counter-clockwise, it continues southward following the line of dykes in their middle and again follows the boundary of the designated marshland up to the point where the dykes make a westward right angle (Point 1). The geo-coordinates for each point are identified in Table 1. The boundary then continues straight towards the uplands, turns east, and follows the Dyke Road, including the entire right-of-way. The boundary follows Miner Lane southward in the middle of the road and turns east on Old Post Road, including the entire right-of-way. It continues to Horton Cross Road, and then turns south, including the right-of-way, and then east on Middle Street including the entire right-of-way, then continues in a straight line towards the Gaspereau River. When the boundary meets the river, it turns north and follows the coastline up Horton Landing, where the dyke resumes (Point 2). The boundary then follows the line of dykes in their middle and the boundary of the designated marshland until it meets with the north boundary.

The boundary is defined by legal descriptions within the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*, as well as by topographic features that ensure it is clearly identifiable on the ground. The boundary guides appropriate management.

3.3 Buffer Area

The buffer zone is an area surrounding the inscribed property. It has complementary legal requirements placed on its use and development to give an added layer of protection to the property. The inscribed property requires a buffer zone to ensure that the integrity of the dykelands and the continuity of its agricultural use are maintained. The buffer zone includes a land component and a marine component.

The land component includes Long Island, Boot Island and the lands surrounding the inscribed property to the south, up to the boundary of the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan*. The buffer zone is managed through legislation and policies that provide added protection to the property. The applicable legislation and policies are described in Chapter 5.

The boundary of the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* encompasses four communities: the hamlet of Grand Pré at the centre, and the communities of North Grand Pré to the north, Hortonville to the east, and Lower Wolfville to the west. Starting at the southern tip of Grand Pré Road as it meets the Gaspereau River (Point 3, see Figure 2 for the location of points, and Table 1 for their coordinates), the boundary follows the river counter-clockwise in the centre of the river up to its mouth where it meets the Minas Basin at the former railway bridge. Then the boundary continues northward and follows the coastline, turns westward along the northern coast of Long Island, and continues to follow the coastline. At the western tip of Long Island, it continues southward, still following the coastline. It then makes a sharp turn westward (Point 1) as it meets the corner of the dyke and continues westward until it meets the legal boundary of the town of Wolfville (Point 4). It turns southward following that boundary to the southern limit of the right-of-way of Highway 101. It follows this right-of-way until it intersects the western right-of-way of Martin Cross Road. It continues south on Martin Cross Road 0.07 kilometres until it meets a point opposite the southwest corner of property, PID #55222947 (Point 5). It then

continues westward along the southern limit of several properties to the southeast corner of property PID #55222897 (Point 6). The boundary turns southward on Biggs Road along the centreline to Hamilton Road (Point 7), continues eastward on Hamilton Road, along the centreline, to Grand Pré Road, finally continuing southward on Grand Pré Road, in the middle, ending at the Gaspereau River.

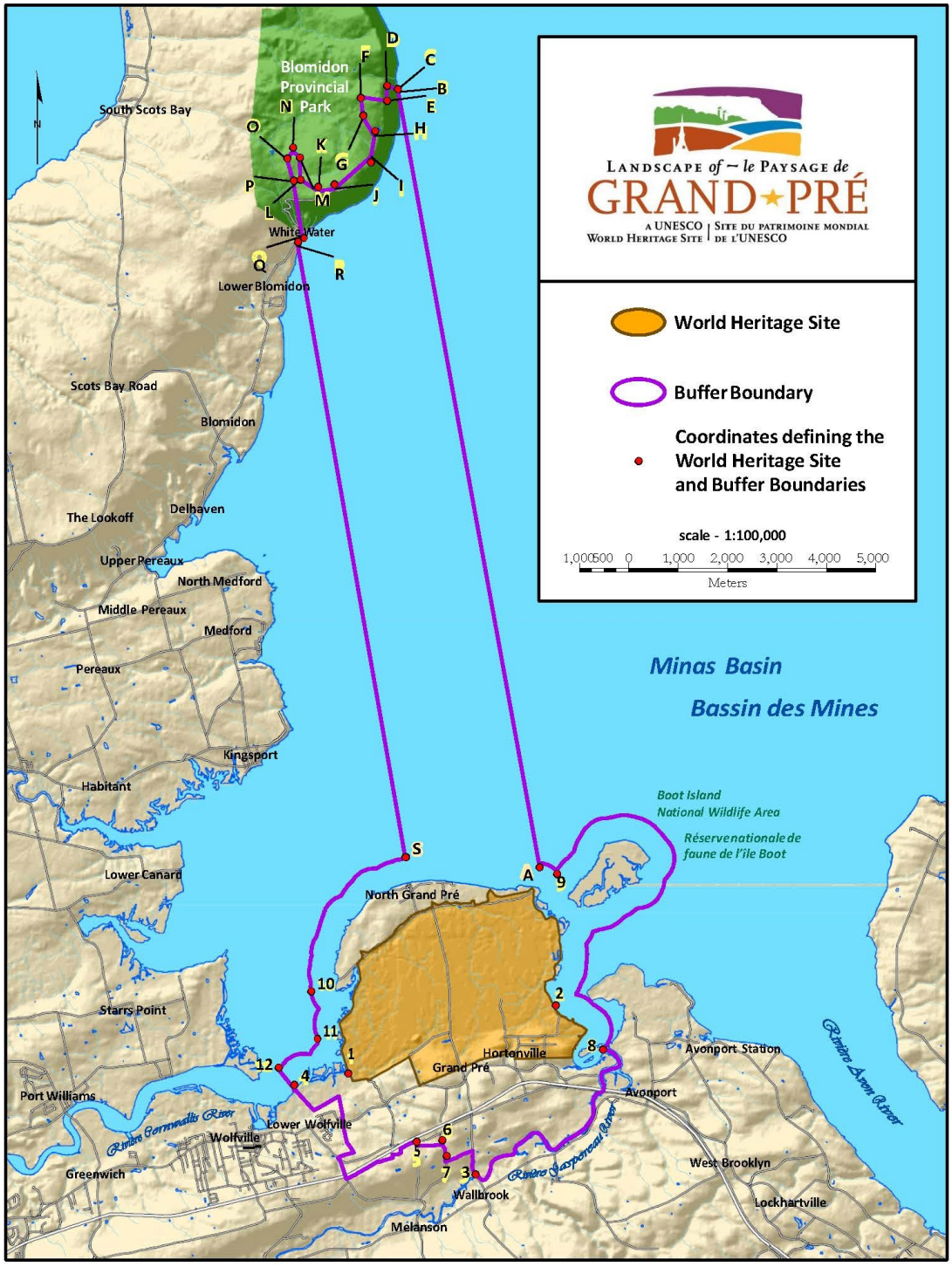
The marine component of the buffer zone extends 500 metres from the water-facing boundary of the inscribed property and, where relevant, from the land buffer zone. On the eastern side of the property, the marine component of the buffer zone begins at Point 8 and extends north along the property extending from the edge of the property. It then continues eastward around Boot Island following the coastline. At Point 9, the boundary for the buffer zone follows the edge of the coastline of Long Island westward until Point 10, where it then follows the coastline of the inscribed property. At Point 11 it turns westward following the edge of the area covered by the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan*. At Point 12, the marine component of the buffer zone ends with a straight line southward, meeting with the land buffer zone. The marine component of the buffer zone includes salt marsh, beaches and mudflats.

Table 1 - Points defining the inscribed property and buffer zone, illustrated in Figure 2

Point	Longitude	Latitude
Point 1	64° 20' 8.49" W	45° 6' 12.94" N
Point 2	64° 16' 57.17" W	45° 6' 56.51" N
Point 3	64° 18' 8.29" W	45° 5' 5.97" N
Point 4	64° 20' 57.13" W	45° 6' 0.56" N
Point 5	64° 19' 3.24" W	45° 5' 24.66" N
Point 6	64° 18' 39.63" W	45° 5' 25.99" N
Point 7	64° 18' 35.70" W	45° 5' 14.62" N
Point 8	64° 16' 11.87" W	45° 6' 29.24" N
Point 9	64° 16' 58.11" W	45° 8' 26.74" N
Point 10	64° 20' 43.15" W	45° 7' 3.79" N
Point 11	64° 20' 36.33" W	45° 6' 31.89" N
Point 12	64° 21' 12.30" W	45° 6' 13.08" N
Point	Longitude	Latitude
A	64° 17' 14.576" W	45°8' 31.676" N
B	64°19' 36.343" W	45°16' 55.597" N
C	64°19' 37.075" W	45°16' 57.176" N
D	64°19' 47.160" W	45°16' 59.939" N
E	64° 19' 46.523" W	45°16' 49.599" N
F	64°20' 10.926" W	45°16' 51.651" N
G	64°20' 8.556" W	45°16' 38.419" N
H	64°19' 57.665" W	45° 16' 26.560" N
I	64°20' 0.542" W	45°16' 13.082" N

J	64°20' 34.016" W	45°15' 51.335" N
K	64°20' 48.839" W	45° 15' 49.720" N
L	64°21' 5.928" W	45°15' 57.030" N
M	64° 21' 7.136" W	45°16' 11.696" N
N	64°21' 13.359" W	45°16' 15.686" N
O	64°21' 18.524" W	45°16' 10.215" N
P	64°21' 12.614" W	45°15' 55.671" N
Q	64°21' 3.598" W	45°15' 19.673" N
R	64°21' 7.362" W	45°15' 13.437" N
S	64°19' 18.050" W	45° 8' 33.251" N

Figure 2 - Boundary of the Inscribed Property and Buffer Zone



3.4 Status

Three levels of government have jurisdiction over various parts of the inscribed property. At the federal level, national historic sites owned by the Government of Canada through the Parks Canada Agency are established under the Canada National Parks Act and protected under the Parks Canada Agency's National Historic Sites Order and its regulations. At the provincial level, archaeological sites are protected under the Special Places Protection Act, administered by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. The dykelands are protected under the Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act and its regulations, as well as by municipal zoning as "Environmental Constraint" that prevents permanent structures. The Grand Pré and Area Community Plan is found within the Kings County's land use planning documents, the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law. The Grand Pré and Area Community Plan is a land use plan that is uniquely tailored to the needs of the area. It provides direction for the future as well as regulates development and activities within the Plan Area boundaries. Additional provincial acts protect regions within the buffer zone, including the Beaches Act and the Cemeteries Protection Act and the recently approved Coastal Protection Act.

Figure 3 - Iconic view of part of the inscribed property taken from the Old Post Road. In the foreground, the Memorial Church and the visitor centre at the National Historic Site; in the middle ground the dykelands up to the tree line, which indicate Long Island and the edge of the inscribed property. In the distance lie Cape Blomidon and the waters of the Minas Basin. (Jamie Robertson Photo)

3.5 Shared Stewardship and Governance Structure

Three levels of government and various other authorities manage various components that make up the inscribed property. Each authority has mechanisms and resources in place to review proposals, plan for them, implement activities, and monitor changes. These mechanisms are used to ensure the conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value. Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated (LGPI) plays an essential role in implementing measures to manage the inscribed property. Whenever it is consulted by one of the authorities, the Board of Directors of LGPI will provide an overall analysis of impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property to ensure coordination among the various authorities' mechanisms and resources.

3.5.1 Jurisdictional Responsibilities

The inscribed property falls under the jurisdiction of the municipality of the County of Kings, the provincial government, the Grand Pré Marsh Body, the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs, and some levels of the federal government. Most lands are privately owned.

Federal Crown land consists of the lands owned and administered by the Parks Canada agency. Non-federal land consists of lands owned and administered by the Department of Agriculture. This is limited to the top of the dykes.

The Municipality of the County of Kings is responsible for the management of land use and activities in the inscribed property, except for the federal and provincial lands. It plays an essential role in preserving the agricultural use of the area.

The Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage has authority over the protection, investigation and management of archaeological resources. The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture has authority over the protection of the dykelands (Marshland Conservation Act) and the maintenance of the dykewalls.

The Grand Pre Marsh Body, in accordance with the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*, has specific authority over the activities and projects taking place on the marshland. A marsh body may
(a) acquire, use, sell and lease real and personal property;
(b) construct, reconstruct, recondition, repair, maintain, conduct and operate works;
(c) enter into agreements with the Minister or other persons for the construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, repairing, maintenance, conduct or operation of works;
(d) make by-laws not inconsistent with this Act for the regulation of its business and affairs;
(e) subject to the approval of the Commission, make rules respecting works and land within or affecting the marshland section;
(f) raise money for its purposes by borrowing or by the levying of rates pursuant to this Act;
(g) prepare a mission or an objectives statement;
(h) do and perform all other acts and things incidental or conducive to the attainment of its objects.

The Marsh Body is an important element of the site's stewardship. It has existed since the 1770s as a group of landowners who have continuously played an essential role in maintaining the land to allow for agricultural activity.

The Government of Canada, through the Parks Canada Agency, owns properties that include Grand-Pré National Historic Site, the locations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque for the commemoration of the Attack at Grand Pré, the plaque commemorating the arrival of the New England Planters at Horton Landing, the plaque commemoration Covenanter Church and the plaque commemorating former Prime Minister Sir Robert Laird Borden. The Agency's mandate is to protect, present, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of historic sites of national significance.

While each jurisdiction will continue to manage its properties and responsibilities, by endorsing the management plan for the Landscape of Grand Pré, the jurisdictions commit to being responsible stewards of the property and to working together through Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated and otherwise to ensure that their own actions are respectful of the property's Outstanding Universal Value.

3.5.2 Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated

Coordinated management of the inscribed property is carried out by Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated and its member organizations: Glooscap First Nation, Grand Pré and Area Community Association, Grand Pre Marsh Body, Municipality of the County of Kings, Parks Canada, Province of Nova Scotia, Société Nationale de l'Acadie and Société Promotion Grand-Pré.

The mandate of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated is to ensure a coordinated management approach between all jurisdictions, provide technical advice on the protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value, promote the property's Outstanding Universal Value, engage the stakeholders in the stewardship of the property, and coordinate the reporting to UNESCO on the property's condition. The regulatory authorities agree to provide mechanisms to consult and receive recommendations from Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated on issues pertaining to the management of the World Heritage Site and on means to protect its Outstanding Universal Value.

Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated is assisted in its work by an Executive Director serving also as Site Management Coordinator whose role is to coordinate the management of the inscribed property. Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated will rely on three main sources of expertise to provide advice on matters of protection, promotion, and education of the site:

1) Its standing committees, which will provide professional advice on matters such as the protection of the dykelands and of the Acadian memorials, and recommend direction and coordination between partners for matters relating to interpretation, promotion, marketing, and education.
2) Its member organizations and their representatives.
3) A variety of outside sources of expertise in government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, as required.

3.5.3 Process for Effective Management of the Inscribed Property

The objective for effectively managing the property is to ensure the coordination of the multiple jurisdictions involved in the area. Managing the property relies on federal, provincial, and municipal authorities implementing actions that are essential for the protection of the inscribed property within the powers afforded to them by legislation.

It is intended that Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated will provide an overarching strategic view of the actions necessary for the protection of the property and ensure the coordination of the legislated authorities. In order to accomplish this, the authorities agree to consult Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated on matters of planning or activity implementation and to receive its recommendation for consideration in good faith. Those recommendations will result from thoroughly investigated issues and options based on its mandate of protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the inscribed property.

4.0 Outstanding Universal Value of the Landscape of Grand Pré

The following section identifies why the inscribed property is considered to have Outstanding Universal Value and summarizes the tangible evidence that support that value. It aims to guide decision-making to maintain the property's integrity and authenticity.

The detailed statement of Outstanding Universal Value that identifies the criteria under which the property was inscribed, the attributes, their integrity and authenticity reflects UNESCO's World Heritage Committee's decision. The criteria are:

Criterion (v): The cultural landscape of Grand Pré bears exceptional testimony to a traditional farming settlement created in the 17th century by the Acadians in a coastal zone with tides that are among the highest in the world. The polderisation used traditional techniques of dykes, aboiteaux and a drainage network, as well as a community-based management system still in use today. The resultant rich alluvial soil enabled continuous and sustainable agricultural development.

Criterion (vi): Grand Pré is the iconic place of remembrance of the Acadian diaspora, dispersed by the Grand Dérangement, in the second half of the 18th century. Its polder landscape and archaeological remains are testimony to the values of a culture of pioneers able to create their own territory, whilst living in harmony with the native Mi'kmaq people. Its memorial constructions form the centre of the symbolic re-appropriation of the land of their origins by the Acadians, in the 20th century, in a spirit of peace and cultural sharing with the English-speaking community.

The Landscape of Grand Pré has evolved in many ways over the years. These changes included different methods of farming, various crops and agricultural uses, changes in landownership, evolution of materials for dyke construction, evolving field shapes and new drainage patterns. However, at its essence, the Landscape of Grand Pré has maintained its integrity because the different layers of history and settlement are still visible in the landscape and because the way the marsh is worked as agricultural farmland has been consistent over the years with people living in the vicinity and maintaining a

community-based approach to their work. The intangible value of the landscape has also evolved from a place that is deeply meaningful to the collective memory of the Acadian people, to a place that Acadians are proud to share with the world as a symbol of perseverance and hope.

4.1 Values

The Landscape of Grand Pré is a dynamic agricultural landscape claimed from the sea. It is also a powerful symbolic landscape for the Acadians. The Landscape of Grand Pré is the most intact agricultural polder in the world that uses an ingenious vernacular system for transforming salt marsh into fertile agricultural farmland. This system of earthen dykes, ditches, *aboiteaux*, and community-based management was first implemented at Grand Pré in the late 17th century by French (Acadian) settlers. The location they chose was subject to the most extreme tides in the world, which presented great challenges but also great opportunities in the extraordinary fertility of the land they transformed. Today, the agricultural landscape is still protected and drained by the same system, still exhibits distinctive field patterns, and is still managed through the same community approach, a testimony to the original Acadian settlers, the New England Planters who succeeded them, and the farmers who work the land today. Symbolically, the Landscape of Grand Pré is the single most important *lieu de mémoire* for the Acadian people, one of the first people of European descent to call North America their homeland.

The Landscape of Grand Pré is directly associated with the emergence of their new identity in this new land, but also with their tragic forced removal from it, their subsequent migration, and their renaissance. Today, this *lieu de mémoire* embodies the cultural consciousness of a widely scattered people. It is a landscape that has been peacefully and symbolically reclaimed by the Acadians, and it is their emotional and spiritual centre. It illustrates the importance of the connection between people and places in defining collective identity.

4.2 Integrity and Authenticity

The inscribed property has integrity because its clearly defined boundaries encompass all the elements relevant both to the agricultural landscape, created from the transformation of salt marsh into farmland over several centuries, and to the symbolically reclaimed landscape. These elements include earthen dykes, ditches, *aboiteaux*, and field patterns, as well as the memorials, archaeological evidence of the village, and commemorations related to the forced removal and subsequent renaissance of the Acadians. The inscribed property comprehensively represents the past and present agricultural settlements as defined by dykeland farmland, upland farmland, and the long-retained community settlement pattern. It includes the dykeland managed collectively by the Grand Pre Marsh Body including the area of symbolic importance to the Acadians. The integrity is supported by the farmland included in the buffer zone. The inscribed property's attributes are in good condition. Policies and mechanisms are in place to mitigate development pressures on the agricultural use and the archaeological sites.

The inscribed property has authenticity because the archaeological and historical evidence confirms the locations of the original Acadian and Planter settlements, the enduring agricultural use, and the location of the memorials. That evidence also confirms that the dykelands are maintained in the 21st century using the same principles and techniques originally implemented by the Acadians in the 17th century

and that they have been managed collectively for over 300 years. The Acadians' continuing use of Grand Pré for individual and collective events attests to the profound value of this landscape to their community.

4.3 Requirements for Protection Management

The inscribed property is protected on all lands under provincial jurisdiction by the Nova Scotia *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act, Special Places Protection Act* and *Coastal Protection Act* and federally on lands administered by the Parks Canada Agency under the P*arks Canada Agency Act*, and the *Canada National Parks Act*. The Nova Scotia *Municipal Government Act* gives authority to the Municipality of the County of Kings for land use planning matters. The protective measures are appropriate to safeguard the dykeland, its agricultural use, and the archaeological sites from undue development and environmental pressures. The buffer zone around the inscribed property, encompassing both land and water, was defined through community engagement leading to the adoption of the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan.* The buffer zone was enlarged by ICOMOS during the inscription process to include view planes toward Cape Blomidon. All these mechanisms are sufficient to control development, support the continuance of agricultural land capacity, and monitor the effects of coastal erosion that could otherwise threaten the value of the inscribed property.

The overall management system for the inscribed property is exemplary. It involves community management through the Grand Pre Marsh Body, municipal zoning, and federal and provincial government legislation for protection of the site. *The Management Plan for the Landscape of Grand Pré* is a strong framework document that ensures the coordination of multiple jurisdictions and stakeholders inside the boundary of the inscribed property and its buffer zone. Parks Canada, as a federal government agency, is responsible for managing Grand-Pré National Historic Site and Horton Landing, site of Planter and Acadian memorials. The Province of Nova Scotia, mainly through its departments of Agriculture and of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, is responsible for protecting the dykelands and archaeological sites not located on federal lands. Finally, the Municipality of the County of Kings is responsible for implementing the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* and the land use regulations contained in it.

The Management Plan is based upon the Community Plan, the *Grand-Pré National Historic Site Management Plan*, provincial departmental policies, and the Grand Pre Marsh Body for its effective implementation. The management system is coordinated by Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated and involves the local community, the Acadian community, the Mi'kmaw community, and government administrative bodies in its decision-making process. Local residents are proud and effective stewards of the land.

5.0 Management Context

5.1 Socio-Economic Information

The total population of the inscribed property and buffer zone varies according to the season. Cottagers and campers who reside in the buffer zone during the summer, especially around Evangeline Beach, increase the population by about 60 per cent. Population estimates for the buffer zone are based on persons per dwelling: 2.4 persons per dwelling for year-round residents and 2.0 persons per dwelling for

seasonal residents. Within the inscribed property, all residents are considered year-round, and the estimate of 2.4 persons per dwelling is applied. The population for the inscribed property and buffer zone is only an estimate, because Canadian privacy laws prohibit the collection of actual population numbers for a community of this size. The persons-per-dwelling estimate came from trends within the 2006 Statistics Canada census data.

The inscribed property has an estimated 64 year-round occupied dwellings with approximately 154 inhabitants. The buffer zone has an estimated 296 year-round occupied dwellings with an estimated 710 residents. Additionally, 67 seasonally-occupied dwellings and 130 seasonal mobile homes are within the buffer zone, increasing the seasonal population by an estimated 394 inhabitants. In total, the population for the inscribed property and buffer zone is approximately 1258.

Table 2 - Population estimates for the inscribed property, for the year 2016

Area of the inscribed property	1323 hectares
Area of land component of the buffer zone (peninsular Grand Pré, Boot Island and uplands, excluding the shore of Cape Blomidon)	1248 hectares
Estimated number of inhabitants in the inscribed property	154
Estimated number of year-round inhabitants in the buffer zone	710
Estimated number of seasonal inhabitants in the buffer zone	394
Total	1258

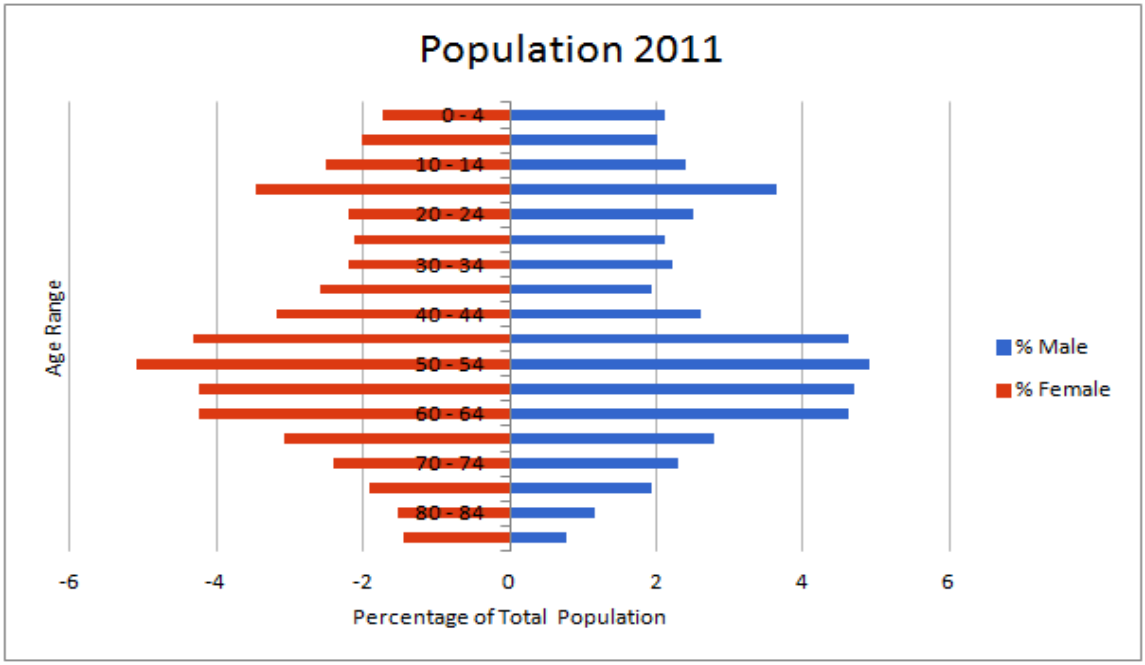


Figure 4 - Population pyramid in Grand Pré and area 2011. **Source: Nova Scotia Community Counts - data modeled from Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2011 and 2016.**

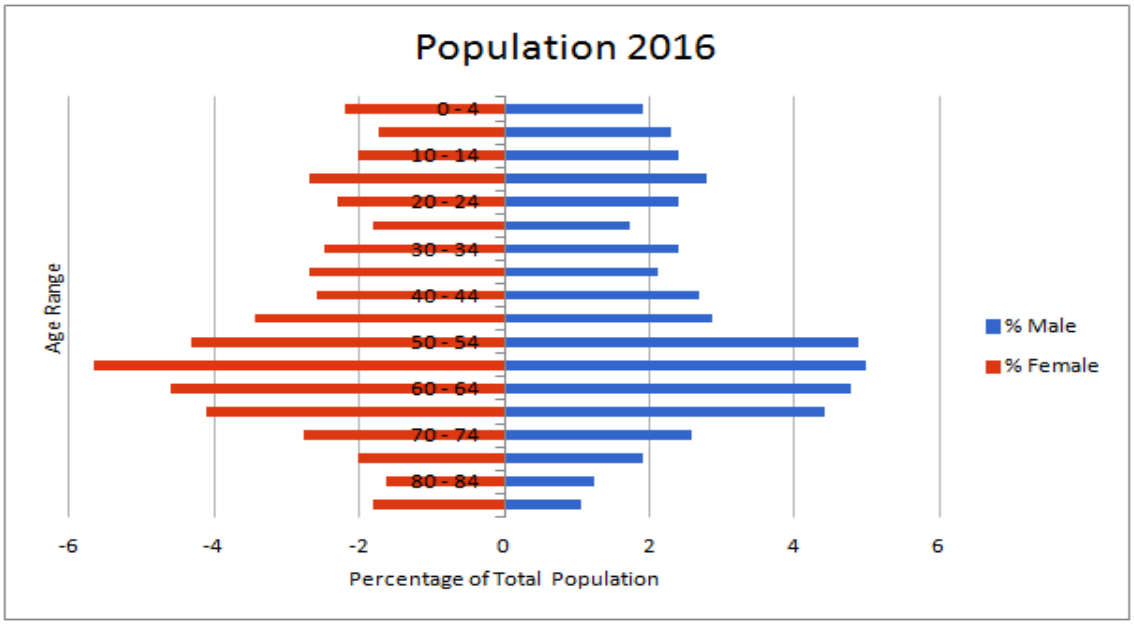


Figure 5 - Population pyramid Grand Pré and area 2016. **Source: Nova Scotia Community Counts - data modeled from Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2011 and 2016.**

5.2 Activities and uses in and Around the Inscribed Property

The predominant activity and land use both within and outside the property is agricultural. There are currently areas in the hamlet and near the exit of Highway 101 that allow businesses and services. Municipal policies aim to continue locating businesses and services in those areas.

Inside the inscribed property, Grand-Pré National Historic Site is a significant tourist attraction. It offers opportunities for visitors to learn about the Acadian way of life in the 1700s and the Deportation of 1755. The marshland is exclusively dedicated to agriculture. Other properties along the uplands within the property are also dedicated to farming, mostly corn and pasture. The rest is primarily residential.

The prevalent land use activity within the buffer zone is agriculture. Most businesses and tourism-related services and activities are concentrated at the crossroads of Highway 1 and Grand Pré Road, around the campground in North Grand Pré, and at exit #10 off Highway 101. These businesses include bed and breakfasts, a motel, campgrounds, a gas station, a convenience store, crafts and local products shops, wineries, a malt and grain company and a coffee roasting company.

Municipal policies and land use regulation promote the agricultural use of the area and discourage rural residential subdivision development. Currently, most of the area is zoned as agricultural land by the Municipality of the County of Kings and is included as part of an agricultural district where 60 percent of the land is class 2, 3, or active class 4.

Arable land varies in quality within the site. On the below sea level marshland, almost 100 % of land is considered class 3, meaning that these soils have moderately severe limitations that restrict the range of

crops or require special conservation practices. On the uplands, farmland is generally classified as class 2 and 3; however, improvement practices are feasible throughout this class range. Grand Pré and Area has a much higher proportion of Class 2 and 3 soils than other parts of the County.

Certain commercial recreation uses, and specific development agreements are allowed in the agricultural district. Urban growth is also controlled to avoid expansion toward agricultural areas. The Grand Pré and Area Community Plan contains very limited opportunities for residential development.

5.3 Factors Affecting the Property

The inscribed property may experience different factors that can affect the property's Outstanding Universal Value. These factors are related to development pressures, environmental pressures, and visitor and tourism pressures. Natural disasters are addressed in Section 8: Natural Disasters and Risk Preparedness.

5.3.1 Development pressures

5.3.1.1 Sustainability of agriculture

The inscribed property is a living agricultural landscape, expressed by the enduring agricultural relationship of local communities with the dykeland, and the maintenance of the fertile farmland created from transformed wetlands. A viable agricultural economy is key to the conservation of the property. For the agricultural landscape of Grand Pré to be preserved and to survive, there must be farmers, and there must be continuing possibilities for agriculture to develop in step with the times. At the same time, agricultural development must proceed hand in hand with conservation of the unique natural and cultural values existing within the inscribed property. Grand Pré and its surrounding communities are a vibrant agricultural community where modern agriculture is practised. However, like many agricultural communities, it is under pressure from changing demographics and economic realities. Agricultural land in the Landscape of Grand Pré is valuable for its scenery and its importance to tourists and surrounding tourism-related businesses, such as farmers' roadside stands and wineries. Agriculture also supports the wider local economy through animal food production, value-added processing and agri-tourism.

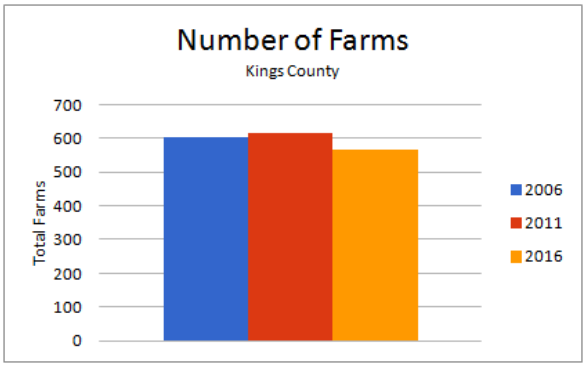
As a result of changes in the agricultural economy over the years, some farm buildings have been abandoned or are being reused. In general, though, farmers have adapted their buildings to their needs. Local demographics indicate that most residents are between 40 and 60 years of age and that households are getting smaller. This information supports anecdotal information provided by local farmers about the future of their industry. They are concerned that younger generations are not interested in pursuing farming activities. Moreover, most new residents are individuals who retire in Grand Pré to enjoy the rural setting while being close to amenities provided by the Wolfville – Coldbrook Corridor and Metro Halifax. Few of the new arrivals actively participate in the agricultural economy.

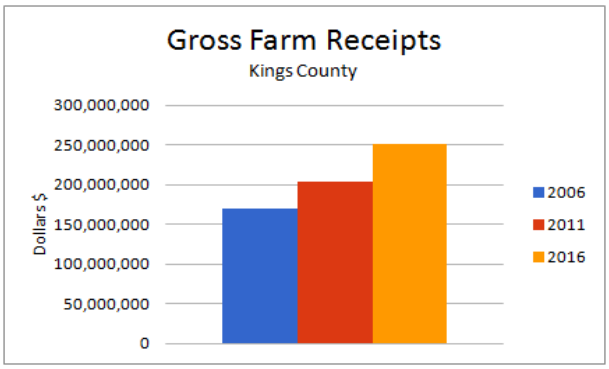
The number of landowners on the dykeland has decreased over the years, although no land has been left unattended. For the remaining landowners, the burden of responsibilities in maintaining the dykeland increases. This may create an issue of long-term capacity to provide the financial and human

resources to maintain an effective Grand Pre Marsh Body and implement its role in maintaining the dykeland, thus altering the relationship between the Department of Agriculture and the Marsh Body.

Although most of the land is part of an Environmental Open Space district, some exceptions for land within the Agricultural district allow for the development of structures that are not related to farming. While the conditions in Grand Pré are ideal for farming, certain pressures make the future of farming in Grand Pré, as in other parts of Nova Scotia, uncertain. In addition to concerns about where the next generation of farmers will come from, farmers are under pressure from land-use conflicts between agricultural and residential uses. Farmers are also subject to fluctuating agricultural prices. These problems are not unique to Grand Pré. Although no specific data exists for farmers working in and around Grand Pré, they may be faring better than others in the province, since much of their production relies on supply management quotas, ensuring some income and production stability.

The County of Kings has the most agriculturally based economy in Nova Scotia. The 2016 Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture showed that there were 565 farms in Kings County, down 8.0% from 2011. Kings County had 16.2 percent of all farms in Nova Scotia (which is up from 15.7% in 2011). There were 745 farm operators. The leading agriculture sector (by number of farms) was fruit farming. Kings County produced $250.3 million in gross farm receipts (a 23% increase since 2011), accounting for 36.1 percent of all gross farm receipts in Nova Scotia. Kings County is the largest county in terms of value of agricultural production; which is consistent with its rank in 2006 and 2011.





Grand Pré's agricultural economy revolves mainly around the dairy industry, animal food production and orchard fruit growing. Crops grown in recent years on the dykeland include corn, salt hay, soy, alfalfa, oats, and winter and spring wheat. In the past, the upland area was renowned for its orchards, mainly apple, but over the past two decades, that industry has decreased in importance. Grape growing for wine making is a rapidly expanding industry in the buffer zone and further afield. Profitability in these crops, in dairy production, or in value-added products, is essential to maintaining the dykeland and this unique agricultural landscape.

Figure 6 - View of the dykelands. Grand Pré and Area is characterized by its agricultural setting and an historic settlement pattern with a low building density (Jamie Robertson Photo).

5.3.1.2 Densification of the area and use encroachment

Densification (the increase in building density) and use encroachment of private property on the uplands are pressures that affect the integrity and authenticity of the inscribed property's distinctive settlement pattern. This settlement pattern is characterized by particular field patterns, roads, a dispersed settlement, and an active agricultural system. Use encroachment is the incompatible intrusion of one type of land use onto an adjacent land use. Since most of the inscribed property is in the Natural Environment District with Environmental Open Space (O1) zoning, densification and encroachment are not an issue on the dykelands. Where the inscribed property falls within the boundary of the Agricultural District, area densification and use encroachment could only affect the uplands, the national historic site and the archaeological resources. The *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act* and its *Grand Pré Marsh Body Land Use Regulations (https://www.novascotia.ca/Just/Regulations/regs/amcgrand.htm) further* minimize any potential pressure from densification and use encroachment on the dykeland.

According to the Act and Regulations, no development can be accommodated on the designated marshland unless a variance permit, or an exemption, is granted by the government of Nova Scotia to allow for the construction of roads, the installation of utility poles or the installation or construction of

structures used for the generation of power. In addition, the dykelands are within the Environmental Constraints (O1) Zone, allowing small structures such as sheds under 215 square feet, agricultural or forestry buildings under 600 square feet.

On the dykelands, lot sizes vary depending on location and ability to drain. In Grand Pré Hamlet, zoned as Hamlet Historic Residential (A5), lot size requirements are a minimum of 50 000 square feet (4645 square metres), whereas in the Agricultural (A1) zone, which includes Hortonville, lot size requirements are a minimum of 30 000 and 200 000 square feet. However, the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* requires a minimum lot size of 30 000 square feet for all new non-farm dwellings in the A1 Zone. The current *Municipality of the County of Kings Municipal Planning Strategy*, Amended and Approved by the Nova Scotia Minister of Municipal Affairs on March 5, 2020, does not allow for nonfarm-related structures to be built on agricultural land unless the lot is designated as an infill lot. Agricultural infill sites are defined as lots with existing dwellings on both sides and within 300 feet (122 metres) of each other or within 300 feet of a public road. Although these lands are classified as agricultural, they have limited potential for agriculture production. At the time of inscription, approximately 64 permanent residences were located within the property: 20 in Grand Pré Hamlet and the remainder in Hortonville. An estimated 5 lots fall within the parameters of a pre-1994 or infill lot, representing a total potential increase in densification of 8 per cent. This percentage excludes any potential to build additional dwellings in areas in the Agricultural (A1) Zone.

Densification could put pressure on archaeological sites in an area that is historically known to have been heavily populated and used in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries as well as in pre-colonial settler periods. However, some community members have collaborated with archaeologists in reporting, locating and identifying archaeological sites. Many have been instrumental in protecting key attributes of the inscribed property, such as above-ground remains of an old Acadian dyke, Acadian and Planter cellars, L'nuk artefacts, and old *aboiteaux*. Most of these discoveries were accidental and were found on privately owned land. To ensure that all archaeological evidence is identified, clear guidelines have been developed for the reporting of all archaeological finds on private property. These guidelines, found within the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré*, have been endorsed by the provincial and municipal authorities and Parks Canada Agency. Information will be provided to residents on reporting and protecting archaeological evidence.

Use encroachment mainly takes the form of agricultural uses encroaching on road rights-of-way that are no longer in use. This is particularly apparent in Hortonville's town grid. Maintained roads are protected, however, because they are public.

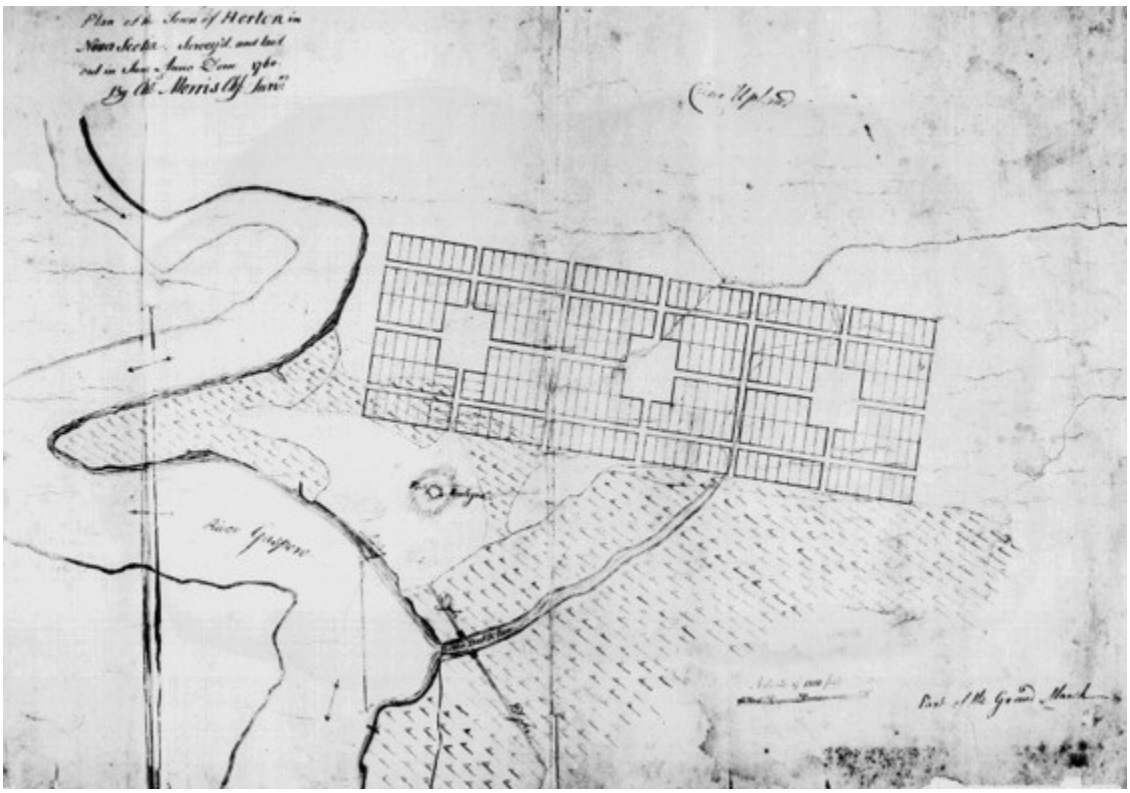
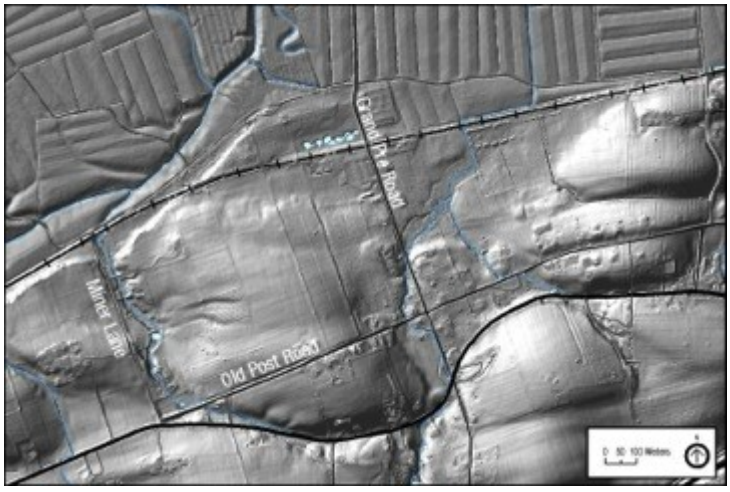


Figure 7 - 'Horton' town grid as planned by the British military surveyors. This is from a 1760s map.



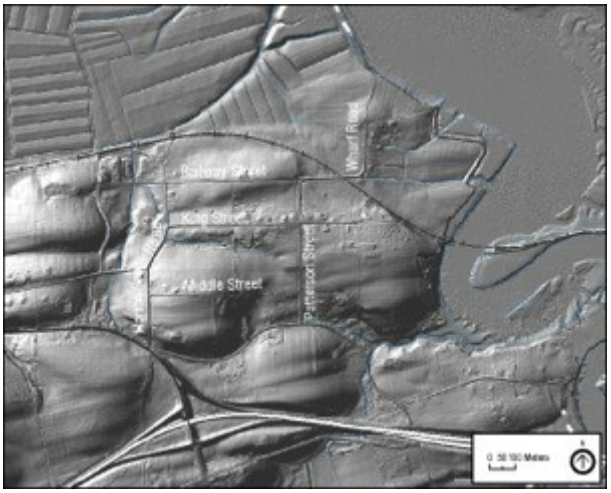


Figure 8 - Close up of Hortonville town grid as defined in grey by Railway Street, King Street, Middle Street, and Horton Cross Road, Patterson Street. Notice the streets that end abruptly without meeting up with a crossroad indicating sections that have now fallen into disuse. An example is Middle Street. The LIDAR view clearly locates those streets that have now disappeared.

Figure 9 – Photo showing where Middle Street ceases to be a street and becomes a path.

5.3.1.3 Alternative energy sources

The flat dykelands of the Landscape of Grand Pré, coupled with winds coming off the Minas Basin, create a desirable location for wind turbines. Notwithstanding the site's attraction for large scale wind development, their use is not permitted in the Landscape of Grand Pré and its buffer zone.

5.3.2 Environmental pressure

5.3.2.1 Coastal change and rising sea level

Coastal change and rising sea levels are constant environmental pressures exerted on the inscribed property, affecting mainly the dykes and shoreline along the east and west sides of the property, as well as the north shore in the buffer zone. A coastal change study completed in 2010, *Overview of Coastal Change Influences on the Landscape of Grand Pré*, confirmed that coastal change, including coastal erosion and coastal regeneration, is occurring around the inscribed property and buffer zone. In 2019 the province of Nova Scotia has established the Coastal Protection Act to protect natural ecosystems and make sure new homes and businesses are safer from sea level rise, coastal flooding and coastal erosion. The act will take effect once the accompanying regulations are fully developed and approved.

The nearly 13 kilometres of coastline of the inscribed property, composed of materials that erode easily, such as sand, shale and gravel, are subjected twice a day to the highest tides in the world. Because of the range of the tides and the height of waves during storms, coastal change is a continuing concern and presents a significant risk to the local economy and cultural resources on the property. Various mitigation strategies have been used to minimize the effects of coastal change, particularly erosion; however, the effects cannot be completely eliminated. Dykes have been maintained to ensure their stability and integrity, and shorelines, in some cases, have been protected by building rock faces.

Archaeological evidence indicates that many of the original dyke walls are buried under 1.5 to 1.8 metres of sediment, a testament to the steady rise in sea levels and alteration to the coastline. An average of 15 metres (50 feet) of shoreline erosion occurred along the North Grand Pré coastline between 1961 and 2002 according to aerial comparisons, with coastal erosion ranging from 0.3 to 68.4 metres (0.97 to 224.34 feet). Furthermore, on Boot Island, an average annual decrease of shoreline over two-year intervals was recorded from 1990 to 2008 at a rate of 0.34 to 0.85 metres per year (1.11 to 2.79 feet per year). Although coastal erosion is taking place along the east and west sides of the marsh, there is evidence of salt marsh regeneration. Salt marsh regeneration is a natural occurrence, but scientists do not fully understand the process.

With sea levels anticipated to rise 70 to 140 centimetres over the next century, and with more intense storm surges expected, it is anticipated that the dykes bordering the Grand Pré region will need continual maintenance to minimize the hazard of dyke breaches and to ensure that the dykelands are able to contribute to the economic and cultural climate of the Grand Pré region. However, topping up the dykes increases their weight, and the added weight makes them slowly sink over time.

Coastal change is not fully understood. Additional studies are underway on the effects of coastal change in the area and on the effects of the various protection mechanisms in place. Continual monitoring and maintenance of the dykes are expected to reduce the negative effects of coastal change.

On April 17, 2019, Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia held a press conference at Grand-Pré National Historic Site to announce funding for two projects in Nova Scotia to reduce the impact of coastal flooding along the Bay of Fundy and Minas Basin. It was stated that these projects would improve over 64 kilometers of dyke systems and causeways in over 60 towns and communities on the western coast of Nova Scotia and along Highway 101. Improvements will provide flood protection for tens of thousands of residents and businesses, numerous wineries, historical and world heritage sites, Indigenous communities and over 20,000 hectares of farmland. Furthermore, these projects will mitigate damage to the region's ecosystems and municipal infrastructure caused by rising tides and storm surge events. It was noted that the completion of these projects will strengthen the resilience of dyke systems, reduce risks to public safety, and minimise disruption to economic activity in one of the most historical and cultural tourist destinations in Atlantic Canada. The Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia are each contributing over $56.9 million to these projects. Canada's contribution is made through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

In March 2022, the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture (NSDA) informed Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. that the Grand Pré Marsh was included in the project. It was noted that "the purpose of this project was to upgrade select marshlands (dyke and aboiteaux structures) in the province to prepare for the effects of climate change. Several marshlands, incorporated under the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*, are currently being considered as potential sites for repair or restoration through this project".

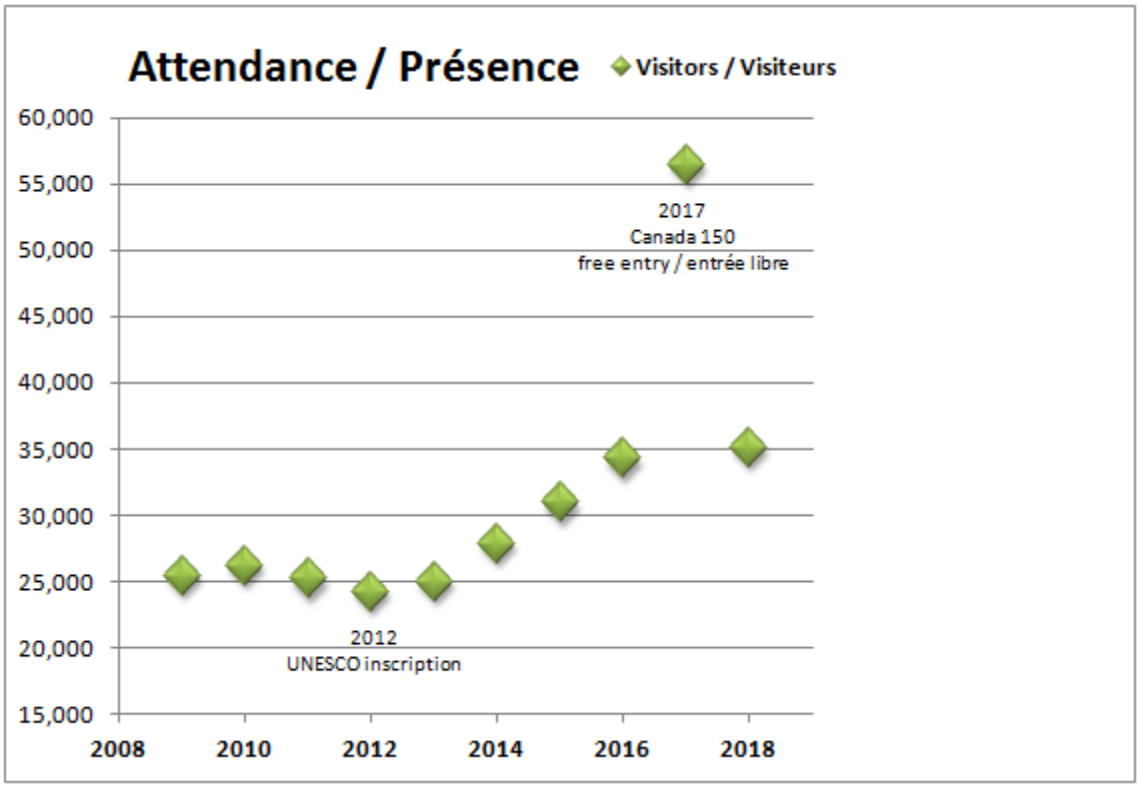
Over the past two years, NSDA has engaged with stakeholders regarding the first phase of project implementation. The following links provide additional information about the dykelands project;
https://novascotia.ca/dykeland-system-upgrades/
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e043dd1df6504f1791eb53ae1e0896ff

Figure 10 - Coastal erosion is a constant pressure on the dykes. Above is a picture of the east-facing dykes at extreme low tide. Top right corner: remnants of salt marsh. In the centre: armour rock facing on the dykes and breakwater. Both have been weakened by the continual tidal pressure. An area to the north of Horton Landing was threatened by a January 2013 foreshore collapse. It was repaired by the placement of armour rock in 2013. There was also armour rock installed to protect a section of the dykewalls in 2021.

5.3.3 Tourism and visitor pressure

5.3.3.1 Tourism trends

In 2022, visitors to Grand-Pré National Historic Site numbered approximately 35,000. This was a return to near normal visitation levels after a sharp decrease during the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2019 visitation reached over 39,000. There has been a steady increase in visitor numbers since the inscription of the Landscape of Grand Pré on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Visitor numbers are down, however, from approximately 62,000 in the late 1990s



A 2009 study, *Grand Pré: An Economic Impact Assessment of a UNESCO World Heritage Designation*, carried out by Acadia University for Nomination Grand Pré indicated a projected 6.2 percent increase in visitation to Grand-Pré National Historic Site would likely occur by 2012 with inscription of the World Heritage Site. This projected increase does not include visitors from Nova Scotia. A Visitor Information Program (VIP) survey performed by the Parks Canada Agency in the summer of 2019 indicated that 70 percent of visitors to Grand-Pré National Historic Site are from Canada, with 20 percent from Nova Scotia. Eighteen percent are from the United States and 12 percent are visiting from another international country. Seniors and adults make up most visitors to the site, at 79 percent. 21 percent of groups are travelling with children and of these, 69 percent are over the age of 45. Additionally, the survey indicated that 14 per cent of visitors identify themselves as having Acadian ancestry.

5.3.3.2 Tourism infrastructure and attractions

The inscribed property, primarily the buffer zone, has various services for visitors, including overnight accommodations, restaurants, speciality retail, activities, a coffee shop, and a service station. These services are summarized in Map 17 *Facilities and Services in the Nominated Property, Buffer Zone, and Surrounding Area* (see Appendices). Overnight accommodations include a campground in North Grand Pré, a motel, and several Bed and Breakfasts and cottages. There are restaurants, a gas station, a corner store, wineries, a few museums, and some antique and other specialty shops. The inscribed property is also a destination for bird watching, in particular, bald eagles around the National Historic Site and the dykelands and semi-palmated plover migrations at Evangeline Beach. Fishing is a popular activity at the Guzzle and at Evangeline Beach. The Landscape of Grand Pré View Park is beginning to attract many to view the expansive dykelands of the World Heritage Site and the view of distant Cape Blomidon.

The Grand-Pré National Historic Site Visitor Centre (2003) and the View Park (2013) can serve as the starting points for a visit to the inscribed property. The Visitor Centre includes interpretive exhibits explaining the natural and cultural history of the area, an interpretive film about Acadian history and Deportation, washrooms, a gift shop, and a parking lot for personal vehicles, recreational vehicles (motor homes) and coach buses. A Memorial Church, sculptures and interpretive panels, gardens, walking trails, and a blacksmith's shop attract visitors to Grand-Pré National Historic Site. More recently, eight oTENTiks have been installed at Grand-Pré National Historic to offer overnight accommodations to visitors and support the increasing cycling tourism.

The Harvest Moon Trailway, linking Grand Pré and Annapolis Royal, has its trail head at Grand-Pré National Historic Site providing opportunities for visitors' easy access to the World Heritage Site. Parks Canada and the Société Promotion Grand-Pré offer a variety of programs and experiences which help visitors appreciate both Grand-Pré National Historic Site and the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site.

The inscribed property lies within the Municipality of the County of Kings. Within a short drive of the inscribed property, are several towns that offer a full range of services to the visitor: Wolfville, Kentville, Windsor, New Minas, and Hantsport. Wolfville, the closest town to the inscribed property, has a visitor information centre, as do Kentville, Windsor and Kingston. Services in and around the towns include a regional hospital, wineries, farms and farmers' markets, U-picks, golf courses, accommodations, museums and service stations. Numerous events and festivals take place in the Town of Wolfville and the Municipality, including music festivals, the Apple Blossom Festival, the Harvest Festival and Devour! The Food Film Fest.

Halifax Regional Municipality is approximately 85 km away. The city has numerous facilities for visitors, including accommodations, restaurants, attractions, churches, libraries, parks, shopping locations and full-scale health-care facilities and emergency departments. The Halifax Stanfield International Airport is 90 km from the inscribed property and serves as the gateway to Atlantic Canada. It has daily or regular flights across Canada, to major destinations in the United States including daily service to New York, and daily service to London, UK.

The Hamlet of Grand Pré and its surrounding area has had a long history of accommodating tourism since the early 1900s, with visitor numbers that peaked at 90 000 in the early 1990s. The area's tourism history indicates that it can accommodate large numbers of visitors without any detrimental effect on the inscribed property. Over the past few years, the increase and speed of traffic in the Grand Pré and area communities has become a safety concern and the Grand Pré and Area Community Association has established a committee (2022) to investigate the matter.

5.3.3.3 Property's carrying capacity

The inscribed property's carrying capacity is defined as its ability to sustain the pressure from visitors and tourism-related activities. This includes limits of acceptable change and the ability for the visitor to experience the inscribed property's important attributes without harming them, and without the tourism-related services affecting them. Based on the 2010 *Tourism Strategy and Interpretation Framework for the Landscape of Grand Pré*, an increase in tourism at the inscribed property would have

both positive and negative impacts. These impacts suggest that the area has the capacity to adapt to increased tourism activity without harming the inscribed property. The 2010 Strategy suggested that there are significantly more potential positive impacts than potential negative impacts resulting from a World Heritage inscription and concluded that the now-inscribed property would be able to sustain the consequences of inscription on the World Heritage List. Potential positive economic and social-cultural impacts were assessed as follows:

Table 3 - Potential positive economic and social-cultural impacts.

Increase in visitation	Since the inscription of the Landscaper of Grand Pré on UNESCO's World Heritage List, the number of visitors to Grand Pré National Historic Site has increased from 24,249 in 2012 to more than 39,000 in 2019 (a 60 percent increase). The recent pandemic has had a significant impact on visitation, but in 2022, an upward trend has been noted.
Incremental spending onsite and offsite	As the site becomes a distinctive attraction, an analysis of trends projected a 20% increase in the average length of stay, a 15% increase in visitor expenditure as a result of additional opportunities, and an additional 3,000 regional visitors annually as a result of the inscription with an incremental impact of another $ 450,000 annually. The total tourism expenditure impacts in the region as projected to be close to $ 1 million annually, directly and indirectly.
Employment	Any new infrastructure, interpretation programs, or tourism services would lead to additional employment.
Local businesses	Although it is not likely that significant new business activity will result from the inscription based on the modest projected visitation increase, nevertheless the future marketing for the site will help local and regional tourism-oriented businesses in their marketing efforts.
Cultural preservation	The inscription and the interpretation of the area's heritage will contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage.
Educational opportunities	On-site interpretive programs and outreach activities will provide specific educational opportunities for the general public.
Environmental conservation	Inscription and site management oversight will help preserve the natural environment.
Community pride	Inscription can encourage community pride which may be manifested into community enhancements and beautification activities.

Potential negative impacts were identified related to visitor experience, the agricultural economy, the relationship of residents to the local setting and community, and resource protection and property values. The 2009 assessment concluded that these negative impacts are unlikely to occur, because the current infrastructure is capable of handling projected increases in tourism.

The Grand Pre Marsh Body is increasingly concerned about the use of the dykelands for recreational purposes such as walking, biking, bird watching and hunting. Since the recent pandemic, there has been an increased public use of open spaces and the dykelands are seen by many as a place for outdoor activities. The former Landscape of Grand Pré Society developed signs, published posters and a brochure in an effort to increase public awareness of the private nature of the dykelands and the incompatibility of recreation activities and farming.

Unfortunately, these measures have had limited success. It had been anticipated that the development of the Harvest Moon Trailway linking Grand Pré with Annapolis Royal would contribute to resolve the issue but it has not.

Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. is in the process of establishing a subcommittee to look at measures to increase public awareness of the private nature of the dykelands and the potential safety risk of using the lands for recreational purposes.

Figure 11 - Aerial view of Grand Pré National Historic Site. The Visitor Centre (large red building) was completed in 2003 and offers visitor services and interpretation programs in a seasonal operation. The number of visitors has increased to more than 39,000 in 2019. Grand-Pré National Historic Site is the primary cultural attraction in the community.

6.0 Management Strategy

The goal of the Management Plan is to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the inscribed property of the Landscape of Grand Pré and the attributes that support it are preserved for present and future generations. The Management Plan serves as an overarching management framework to cohesively guide the protection, conservation and presentation of the inscribed property, both for the proposed site's governance structure and the responsible authorities.

The *Management Plan* provides shared principles, goals and objectives for the regulatory authorities and the stakeholders involved in the protection and interpretation of the property. It also builds on each authority's responsibilities, processes, and policies to ensure a collaborative approach for sharing information and decision-making for the property's long-term conservation. The management plan is implemented through the plans and policies of each regulatory authority and through the Strategic Plan guiding the work of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated. Listed below are the Principles, Goals and Objectives of the Management Plan.

6.1 Principles, Goals and Objectives

6.1.1 The principles of this management plan are:

Principle 1: Management of the inscribed property will meet or exceed World Heritage standards and honour the spirit of UNDRIP.

Principle 2: Management practices will respect the unceded nature of the lands which form part of the Landscape of Grand Pré WHS. The fact that the WHS is part of the Mi'kmaw people's unceded homeland of Mi'kma'ki will be generally acknowledged by the Corporation in its communication activities.

Principle 3: The primary focus of the *Management Plan* is to address issues directly related to the management and conservation of the site's Outstanding Universal Value and attributes by providing a framework for advice from Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated for decision-making for the regulatory authorities.

Principle 4*:* The *Management Plan* recognizes that the inscribed property is set within an active agricultural community where people continue to live and work. People have created, lived and worked on this land for generations and have been responsible stewards of the land. The *Management Plan* also recognizes that this is an area of great emotional attachment and importance for the Acadian diaspora.

Principle 5*:* Management of the inscribed property in relation to World Heritage guidelines will be a shared responsibility between the different owners, communities, and government agencies with regulatory responsibilities. The *Management Plan* recognizes that an action undertaken by an owner, community, or government agency with regulatory responsibilities could have a detrimental impact on the inscribed property, and thus communication, coordination, and collaboration between all parties are essential to the inscribed property's long-term protection.

Principle 6: Management and protection will be delivered through existing boards, bodies, and government authorities, supplemented by technical advice, interpretation, and education from Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated and procedures developed to accommodate an inscribed World Heritage Site.

This Management Plan requires regular review by *Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated*, as experience and other factors may influence the future direction of site management. The Management Plan review will be on a five-year cycle. The plan was reviewed in 2014, and again in 2018 following governance restructuring. Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. consulted the regulatory authorities in 2021 and 2022 to update the current version of the management plan.

While these goals and objectives will inform the decisions and actions of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated, its priorities are articulated in the approved 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

6.1.2 The goals and objectives of the Management Plan are:

Goal 1: ***To provide for the protection, continuing community and agricultural use and appreciation of the inscribed property by:***

Objective #1: Supporting agriculture as a vibrant economic activity of the community.

Objective #2: Supporting the work of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture in its responsibility of and encouraging monitoring and maintenance of the dykes.

Objective #3: Supporting Parks Canada in the protection of the memorials which reflect the enduring importance of the Landscape of Grand Pré to the Acadians.

Objective #4: Facilitating/encouraging research and filling the gaps in knowledge about the landscape and the people that inhabited it over the years.

Objective #5: Supporting the Grand Pre Marsh Body, as long-term steward of the marshland, in its significant role in the maintenance, use and protection of the marshlands.

Objective #6: Informing visitors to the World Heritage Site, through various means, of the need to be mindful that they are entering an active agricultural community.

Objective #7: Working with interested stakeholders to ensure that visitors have access to the values of the inscribed property without interfering with the ongoing agricultural use of the marshland and protection of the dykes.

Objective #8: In accordance with ICOMOS recommendation, proceed immediately with the implementation of the Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré.

Objective #9: Explore opportunities for partnerships with universities for research initiatives supporting the management and conservation of the Landscape of Grand Pré's cultural resources.

Goal 2: ***To enrich the existing tourism destination by promoting wide recognition, understanding and appreciation of the educational and cultural values represented by the inscribed property by:***

Objective #1: Developing programs, activities, tools, and interpretation that raise awareness of the importance of the landscape for all communities, the Mi'kmaq, the Acadians, the New England Planters as well as other successive and current owners and farmers.

Objective #2: Promoting visitation through regional, national and international media.

Objective #3: Ensuring that promotion of the WHS is managed responsibly in all aspects of publicity in relation to the inscribed property in accordance with UNESCO guidelines.

Objective #4: Developing tools and interpretation on the history and importance of agriculture within the World Heritage Site.

Objective #5: Develop heritage experience opportunities that enable visitors to fully connect with the heritage values of the WHS (view, hear, touch, taste). Through this intimate and personal connection with the Landscape of Grand-Pré, visitors will become ambassadors and personally engaged in supporting the sustained Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS.

Objective #5: Continuing to raise awareness about the Acadian people and the way they overcame their forced migrations of the 18th century.

Objective #6: Developing partnerships with other World Heritage sites.

Goal 3: ***To instil a strong sense of shared community pride and stewardship in the protection, interpretation and promotion of the inscribed property by:***

Objective #1: Providing for Grand Pré and Area community input and encouraging participation in all activities related to the stewardship of the Landscape of Grand Pré.

Objective #2: Engaging Acadian, Mi'kmaq, local and all interested stakeholder communities in activities that celebrate the importance of the Landscape of Grand Pré.

Objective #3: Through the leadership of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated, ensure that the interests and concerns of local residents, the Mi'kmaq and the Acadian diaspora are heard, discussed and reflected in the advice to the different regulatory authorities.

Objective #4: Encouraging the provision to Nova Scotia and Acadian schools located in the Maritime Provinces with information and opportunities to incorporate the experience at the

Landscape of Grand Pré into their curricula. (Nova Scotia could serve as pilot project for subsequent extension of the provision to all Canadian schools).

Goal 4: ***To ensure the long-term sustainability of the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site by:***

Objective 1: Exploring financial strategies to leverage public and private funding.

Objective 2: Developing and implementing a private fundraising strategy.

Objective 3: Developing and adopting a financial model for the long-term sustainability of the governance model following the first decade of operations.

Objective 4: Realizing revenue streams from managing the brand.

Objective 5: Securing partnerships to sustain the long-term sustainability of the Landscape of Grand Pré.

6.2 Policies and Strategies

The priority of this management plan is to ensure the conservation and protection of the inscribed property's Outstanding Universal Value. These include amongst others, the marshland, the archaeological sites, agricultural landscape and the memorials to the Acadian Deportation.

The *Landscape of Grand Pré* is currently protected by provincial and federal acts and municipal bylaws.

6.2.1 Legislation, policies and regulatory measures for the protection of the property

This section outlines the municipal, provincial and federal legislation and policies that directly apply to the protection of the inscribed property.

a) Municipal Planning Strategy, Grand Pré and Area Community Plan

In accordance with Part VIII Section 212 of the *Municipal Government Act* of the province of Nova Scotia, the Municipality of the County of Kings has developed a *Municipal Planning Strategy* (*MPS*). The MPS consists of policy statements with respect to the use of the lands within the county, the provision of municipal services, and any other matter related to the physical, social or economic development of the county. The MPS, updated in 2019 and approved in 2020 recognizes the need to accommodate growth and preserve the agricultural resource base. With respect to the inscribed property, there are no areas considered "Growth Centres."
The *Municipal Government Act* of Nova Scotia permits a municipality to establish committees to undertake research and public consultation and to provide recommendations to a municipal council with respect to the adoption of planning policies and bylaws. In 2008, the Municipality of the County of Kings, in concert with Nomination Grand Pré's Advisory Board, began the process of amending the MPS further to include specific visions and policies for the communities of Lower Wolfville, Hortonville, North Grand Pré and Grand Pré. These approved amendments are identified in the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan*.

In developing the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan*, the Municipality of the County of Kings worked with the Grand Pré and Area Community Association and the wider community to develop a plan that reflects the needs and desires of the community, with the objective to develop the "vision that the community has for its future in a landscape of great environmental, cultural, and historical significance" (Terms of Reference, 2008). The general policy that comes out of the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* is that Council shall be guided by the policies and vision that are identified in the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* when making decisions that impact the lands within the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* boundary.

The following is the vision statement for the Community Plan and the goals for key aspects of the community:

Vision statement
The Grand Pré and Area communities work together with a shared interest in sustaining a healthy rural setting by conserving our culture, environment, and agricultural landscape. In defined areas, the larger community provides opportunities for community growth, agriculture, the recreational use of shared open space, and local business.
Goals
Agriculture Goal: *To sustain the agricultural community within its rural setting* **Residence and Recreation Goal:** *To provide opportunities for recreation and residential growth where appropriate to the needs of each of the four communities* **Heritage Goal:** *To celebrate and conserve our local history and built heritage* **Business Goal:** *To create a business community that complements the rural setting and meets the needs of visitors and the local community* **Infrastructure Goal:** *To ensure that sustainable infrastructure supports the rural context and enhances community health and safety* **Environment and Open Space Goal:** *To ensure a healthy and accessible environment while recognizing and conserving environmentally sensitive areas*

This vision and these goals emphasize the community's desire to preserve its heritage and its values while managing change.

b) Special Places Protection Act (provincial)

The Special Places Protection Act (Appendix 3K) aims to provide for the preservation, protection, regulation, exploration, excavation, acquisition and study of important archaeological, historical and paleontological sites and remains, including those underwater throughout Nova Scotia. The Culture

and Heritage Development Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage administers and enforces the Act by overseeing the protection of all sites and remains in the province, managing the Heritage Research Permit system, and designating archaeological sites as protected sites.

The inscribed property is not designated as an entire Protected Site under the Act. Nevertheless, the Act applies to the inscribed property in terms of the protection of all individual archaeological and historical sites found within it, other than those on federal lands. The Act states that no person shall knowingly destroy, desecrate, deface or alter archaeological or historical remains whether designated or not, unless he or she holds a heritage research permit to excavate the site. Should new construction or any modern intervention put pressure on or identify an archaeological site, the Act requires that mitigation measures be carried out. The Act indicates that the developer may be required to cover the costs of any mitigation measures. Penalties are considered for anyone who contravenes the Act. The Municipality is actively promoting information to all landowners about this responsibility.

c) Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture is responsible for the application of the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*. The purpose of the Act is to identify and protect those lands that "are subject to periodic flooding." The Minister responsible for the Act may construct works described in the Act as "dykes, aboiteaux, breakwaters, canals, ditches, drains, roads and other structures, excavations and facilities for the conservation, development, improvement or protection of marshland to a standard appropriate for agricultural purposes." The Act protects approximately 1220 hectares of the dykelands at Grand Pré.

The *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act* sets out the responsibilities to create, maintain, operate, rebuild, and repair the dykes and other works. The Act establishes a Commission that advises the Minister on matters related to the conservation and protection of marshland and its development and maintenance. The Act also allows for the creation of marsh bodies whose authority and responsibilities consist of (a) acquiring, using, selling and leasing real and personal property, (b) constructing, reconstructing, reconditioning, repairing, maintaining, conducting and operating works, (c) entering into agreements with the Minister or other persons for the construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, repairing, maintenance, conduct or operation of works, (d) subject to the approval of the Commission, making rules respecting works and land within or affecting the marshland section, and (e) raising money for its purposes by borrowing or by the levying of rates pursuant to the Act.

d) Beaches Act

The Parks Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources administers the *Beaches Act*. The Act aims to protect beaches and associated dunes as sensitive environmental and recreational resources, as well as to provide regulations and enforcement of land-use activities on beaches.

No beaches lie within the inscribed property; however, Evangeline Beach in North Grand Pré, is within the buffer zone, as are other smaller beaches along North Grand Pré and Boot Island. This Act applies to all beaches along the coast.

The Act prohibits the removal or deliberate displacement of any aggregate material from the beach including sand, gravel, stone or other material; however, the Governor in Council may make regulations granting the leases, licences and permits for the removal of any aggregate material.

The Act further permits the Governor in Council to make regulations regarding the protection of flora and fauna located on the beach, to restrict or regulate traffic by vehicles, vessels and pedestrians on the beach, and to restrict certain activities from occurring on a beach. Penalties for offences under this Act range from a minimum of $50 to a maximum of $2,000.

e) Cemeteries Protection Act

The *Cemeteries Protection Act* is administered by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. It refers to any land that is set apart for the burial of human remains and includes all active and non-active cemeteries.

The purpose of the *Cemeteries Protection Act* is to prohibit the use of burial lands for any purpose other than burial or placement of human remains or memorialisation. Pursuant to the Act, it is considered an offence for anyone to desecrate, damage, or destroy a cemetery. The Act applies only to known cemeteries; however, if remains are found outside of a known cemetery, this Act then applies. For example, if the mass grave of the British soldiers who died during the 1747 attack at Grand Pré, or the graves of the British officers, Colonel Noble and his brother, are found, then the Cemeteries Protection Act will apply to those sites.

The inscribed property has one known non-active cemetery to which this Act applies. The Lower Horton Cemetery, located on the north side of Old Post Road, has approximately 25 gravestones from 1793 to 1943 inclusive. In the buffer zone, there is one active and one non-active cemetery to which this Act applies. The active cemetery is located on the south side of Old Post Road as part of the Lower Horton Cemetery, and the non-active cemetery is located next to the Covenanter Church on Grand Pré Road.

f) Parks Canada Agency Act

The Government of Canada, through the Parks Canada Agency, owns a number of parcels of land within the inscribed property, including Grand-Pré National Historic Site (NHS), some surrounding land to the south including the location of the Landscape of Grand Pré View Park, the site of the commemoration of the Attack at Grand Pré, and the Horton Landing location of the New England Planters' Memorial and the Deportation Cross. The Parks Canada Agency administers these properties under the authority of the *Parks Canada Agency Act*. Since these properties are owned by the Government of Canada, all their elements of national historic significance, including those related to the Outstanding Universal Value of the inscribed property, are protected under federal legislation and policy. As stated, the purpose of this Act that applies to the Outstanding Universal Value of the Landscape of Grand Pré is:

- To protect the nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage in national parks, national historic sites, national marine conservation areas and related heritage areas in view of their special role in the lives of Canadians and the fabric of the nation.
- To present that heritage through interpretive and educational programs for public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment, both for international visitors and the Canadian public, thereby enhancing pride, encouraging stewardship and giving expression to our identity as Canadians,
- To carry out Canada's international obligations and agreements to protect, conserve and present that heritage and to contribute towards the protection and presentation of the global heritage and biodiversity.
- To ensure the commemorative integrity of national historic sites.
- To commemorate places, people and events of national historic significance
- To manage visitor use and tourism to ensure both the maintenance of ecological and commemorative integrity and a quality experience in such heritage and natural areas for this and future generations.

Pursuant to the *Parks Canada Agency Act*, the agency's *Guiding Principles and Operational Policies* provide detailed direction for the national program of natural and cultural heritage protection. The *Cultural Resource Management Policy* and the *National Historic Sites Policy* are part of the *Guiding Principles and Operational Policies*. The *Parks Canada Agency Act* requires the agency to implement them as they relate to the protection and management of protected heritage areas, including those that are included in the nominated property.

g) Canada National Parks Act

The *Canada National Parks Act* enables the establishment of National Historic Sites (NHS) under the *National Historic Sites Order*, in order to "(a) commemorate a historic event of national importance; or (b) preserve a historic landmark, or any object of historic, prehistoric or scientific interest, that is of national importance".

There are 1004 national historic sites in Canada and the Parks Canada Agency is responsible for administering 171 of them. Of these, 51 are included under the *National Historic Sites Order*, pursuant to subsections 42(1) and (3) of the *Canada National Parks Act*. This is the highest level of protection afforded to a national historic site. Grand-Pré NHS is included under that Order, meaning that it is regulated under the *National Historic Parks General Regulations* part of that Act, the *National Historic Parks Wildlife and Domestic Animal Regulations*, and other relevant federal and provincial legislation. The Regulations allow for the management of various activities within the national historic site including the removal of historic objects, building and maintenance of services and facilities, use of vehicles within the park, and authorizations to enter the park.

h) Historic Sites and Monuments Act

Within the boundaries of the inscribed property, four places of national historic significance commemorated under the authority of the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* are administered by the Parks Canada Agency. Within the buffer zone, there is one historic place of national historic significance commemorated under the same Act. As stated in the Act, a historic place includes "a site, building or other place of national historic interest or significance, and includes buildings or structures that are of national interest by reason of age or architectural design." Grand-Pré National Historic Site and the Grand-Pré Rural Historic District National Historic Site are sites of national historic significance within the inscribed property. The Covenanter Church is the only site of national significance within the buffer zone.

The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada's plaque commemorating the Arrival of the New England Planters at Horton Landing and the plaque commemorating the Attack at Grand Pré commemorate events of national historic significance, which are managed in accordance with the cultural resource management policy of Parks Canada. These historic places are owned by the Parks Canada Agency, but, because they are not sites as defined by the Act, only the policies relating to cultural resource management apply and not policies that apply to national historic sites.

i) Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada (federal, provincial, municipal)

The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* is a pan-Canadian document that provides guidance for the conservation of buildings, archaeological sites, landscapes, and engineering works in Canada. Federally, it was adopted by the Federal Heritage Building Review Office and the Parks Canada Agency as policies guiding conservation actions in their areas of jurisdiction. Provincially, Nova Scotia endorsed the document, with some departments, such as the department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, adopting it as policy. The Municipality of the County of Kings used the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* as a guideline to develop the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan.*

This document is a tool that allows for the proper management of heritage and facilitates a coordinated effort between jurisdictions to conserve heritage.

6.2.2 Management for the protection, conservation, and interpretation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value

As a historic place and in compliance with the guidance provided in Clauses 111, 112, and 117 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the management objectives for the property's conservation aim to ensure that its Outstanding Universal Value is preserved through a cycle of understanding, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Considering the number of owners and the different jurisdictions, management of this property is ensured through the collaboration and participation of all stakeholders.

This section explains how each jurisdiction collects information and manages activities, and explains how managing the property will be coordinated between different jurisdictions.

6.2.2.1 Understanding the Property: Inventories, Evaluations, Condition Assessments

An ongoing understanding of the property's attributes and of their condition is essential to inform decision-making. Mechanisms exist within each jurisdiction to maintain inventories and condition assessments for key attributes of the property and for collecting information about the pressures the property may face.

a) Municipal jurisdiction

The Municipality of the County of Kings maintains up-to-date information about planning policy, zoning, and land uses. It also keeps track of development proposals, approved permits, and makes decisions about infrastructure construction. Finally, it compiles socio-economic information about the community to help in developing planning policies that reflect changes in demographics and supports the local economy. The information that the Municipality of the County of Kings collects will be shared.

b) Provincial jurisdiction

Heritage resources under the authority of the Province of Nova Scotia are managed under the provisions of the *Heritage Property Act* for designated heritage structures and of the *Special Places Protection Act* for archaeological and historical sites. As there are no designated heritage structures linked to the Outstanding Universal Value, only the *Special Places Protection Act* applies to the property.

The inventory of archaeological sites is maintained by the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. That inventory is comprised largely of archaeological sites that have been assigned a Borden number as a result of an archaeologist's field recording of a site. The inventory also contains many sites which were given a Borden number to support the Nova Scotia Museum's artefact cataloguing system, even though these sites were poorly described or located. The program also relies on individuals notifying it of the discovery of potential sites. The *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré* prepared in 2010 and updated in 2021/22, *outlines* the program to inventory, evaluate, or assess the condition of sites in the area. The *Special Places Protection Act* provides the basis for the Culture and Heritage Development Division and the Nova Scotia Museum (also part of the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage), to act as repository for all archaeological reports and artefacts gathered through its Heritage Research Permit system. This repository is used extensively to support the various research projects and outreach activities of the Special Places Program and the Nova Scotia Museum.

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture is responsible for the administration of the *Agricultural Marshland Protection Act*. The purpose of this Act is to identify and protect agricultural marshlands. Current data is maintained about the location, evaluation, and condition assessment of *aboiteaux*, drainage systems, and dykes. The Department's surveyor maintains up-to-date information about dyke location, height, and land elevation of the dykes. Surveys are performed every 3 years; dykeland construction supervisors are in the field staff monitoring the condition of *aboiteaux*, dykes, and drainage systems. There is at least one site visit a year usually in the spring to monitor

conditions following winter storms. Assessments are visual and rely on the dykeland construction supervisor's experience. More specifically;

- Dyke elevation surveys are done every 3-5 years
- A minimum of 1 formal inspection of the dykes is done in the spring and submitted
- Less formal inspections are done every month or after any significant weather event
- Aboiteaux are inspected at least once a year with a formal report
- Less formal checks are done at same time as less formal dyke inspections
- Dykeland Construction Supervisor reports verbally, written reports, electronic reporting
- Maintains a close relationship with the Marsh Body members & executive so everyone involved has the same information

Reports are made verbally to the department's engineer. There is no systematic collection of data regarding coastal change.

The Nova Scotia Department of Public Works is responsible for maintenance and upgrade of the public road networks and associated infrastructure under their jurisdiction. Inventories, inspections, assessments, and ongoing initiatives are valuable mechanisms for the planning of repairs and upgrades.

c) *Federal jurisdiction*

Cultural resources on federal lands administered by Parks Canada are managed according to its *Cultural Resource Management Policy* which sets a cycle of inventorying cultural resources, evaluating them, considering their historic value in planning, and monitoring. In compliance with that policy, Parks Canada maintains an inventory of all cultural resources found on its property. It provides resources and maintains capacity to carry out archaeological surveys and evaluation of cultural resources which allows for ongoing updates to that inventory. Condition assessments are carried out at national historic sites every ten years through Commemorative Integrity evaluations and are reported publicly in States of the Site reports. In addition, the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré* (2010) outlines Parks Canada's role in inventorying resources and evaluating them in relation to the values of the inscribed property.

d) *Grand Pre Marsh Body*

The Grand Pre Marsh Body's jurisdiction is defined by the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*. It plays a role in maintaining the dykes, drainage, and private roads. Landowners work on the land on a daily basis and are able to make important visual assessments of the condition of dykes, creeks, ditches, and *aboiteaux*. There is no process or record of this kind of information. Informal reports are made at the Marsh Body's meetings and through discussions with the Dykeland Construction Supervisor.

e) *Coordinated Stewardship*

Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated ensures that information is shared between jurisdictions by implementing the data sharing agreements and facilitating the provision and transfer of information.

6.2.2.2 Managing Activities: Planning, Implementation and Monitoring

Three levels of government and various other authorities manage various components that make up the inscribed property. Each authority has mechanisms and resources in place to review proposals, plan for them, implement activities, and monitor changes. These mechanisms will be used to ensure the conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value. Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated plays an essential role in supporting the implementation of measures to manage the inscribed property. Whenever it is consulted by one of the authorities, the Board, through its *Technical Advisory Committee* will provide an overall analysis of impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property to ensure coordination among the various authorities' mechanisms and resources.

a) Municipal jurisdiction

Development and land use in the inscribed property, excluding federal and provincial land, are managed through the municipal zoning and bylaws of the Municipality of the County of Kings. The municipality's planning department maintains planning capacity to review proposals, develop policies, and assist project proponents. The municipality maintains the staff to review projects as they relate to the Grand Pré municipal heritage conservation district.

Development is managed to support community needs while recognizing the intrinsic value of the inscribed property. Thus, the municipality focuses on maintaining the integrity of the resources and protecting the agricultural identity of the community through control over development, as much of the area is zoned environmental open space or for agricultural use. This sets the framework to determine acceptable development. The *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* does not allow large-scale wind turbines within the Grand Pré and Area Plan Boundary. Municipal Council has consistently demonstrated its commitment to protecting agricultural land; the current *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* reinforces this commitment. The *Municipal Planning Strategy* exemplifies that long-term commitment.

b) Provincial jurisdiction

a. *Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage* - Planning for archaeological and non-federal heritage resources falls under the authority of the Province of Nova Scotia's Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. It is carried out by the Special Places Program, which is responsible for maintaining the inventory of archaeological resources, issuing heritage research permits, and providing advice on the management of archaeological and historical sites and remains. The curatorial staff of the Nova Scotia Museum provides support for these functions. Currently, the Special Places Program relies on a variety of triggers to identify potential impacts to archaeological sites. As the Special Places Protection Act specifies that no person shall knowingly destroy an archaeological site, the Special Places Program is responsible for developing and implementing policies, guidelines and procedures to manage that aspect

of the Act. A coordinator and director for the Special Places Program is responsible for this.

b. *Department of Transportation and Active Transit* - Planning for public road maintenance and upgrades is carried out by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. For major projects, an environmental-impact assessment is required and provides a mechanism for stakeholders to express concerns and provide input.

c. *Department of Agriculture* -The Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Protection Division has the expertise to implement the provisions of the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act* (Appendix 3F). The Division's Land Protection Section is responsible for maintenance work on the system of tidal dykes in Nova Scotia. This Section also provides advice to dyke landowners on improving drainage systems on the dykeland (see Figure 5–2). The Department of Agriculture manages the planning for all work on dykes, *aboiteaux*, and drainage. The department also implements and supervises the work.

   Drainage is maintained by both the Department of Agriculture and the Grand Pre Marsh Body. The department oversees the maintenance of main outlet drainage. In certain circumstances, costs are shared with the Grand Pre Marsh Body through the Main Outlet Drainage Program, which has been renewed annually for the past four years. The Department of Agriculture periodically shares the cost of road maintenance along the interior of the dyke from the Town of Wolfville, past the water treatment plant and North of Aboiteau # 4. The remainder of road maintenance is done by the Grand Pre Marsh Body.

   The Dykeland Construction Supervisor for Grand Pré, one of four such positions with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, is responsible for assessing the work that needs to be performed based on his annual site visits or following major storm events. Based on the supervisor's verbal report, the departmental engineer allocates resources to perform the work. The engineering staff provides the department with design capacity; however, most work is contracted to private contractors. The departmental budget for the maintenance of all dykes in Nova Scotia is approximately $2.0 M (2022/2023).

   Other activities or building of infrastructure on the dykeland would require a variance permit. Variances for development in a dykeland may be authorized by permit by the Marshland Administrator. However, these are rare. Permits are not issued if the development substantially interferes with drainage or other work in a way that negatively affects the existing agricultural activity or the agricultural potential of the dykeland section, or is contrary to any applicable municipal land-use bylaw or rules of a marsh body. If a variance is authorized, notice is given to the marsh body and to the municipality. Coastal erosion is not monitored formally other than through the Dykeland Construction Supervisor's annual visual assessment. When a variance request is received there is a place on the application requesting a letter of approval from the marsh body.

c) Federal jurisdiction

National historic sites administered by Parks Canada are managed with a long-term vision through management plans. These plans are mandated by law and are required to be reviewed every ten years. Management plans are approved by the Minister responsible for Parks Canada and provide the framework for decision-making on the site on issues relating to the protection of resources, education, and visitor experience. The current *Grand-Pré National Historic Site Management Plan* was tabled in Parliament in 2011. A new management plan has been prepared in 2022 and will be tabled in Parliament in 2023.

In addition, everyday activities and special projects are designed and carried out in accordance with Parks Canada's *Cultural Resource Management Policy* (to ensure the respect and maintenance of historic values. These activities and projects are implemented with various directives, manuals, and guidelines related to archaeological resource management, impact assessments, and conservation. Interventions on cultural resources are planned and implemented by internal and contracted resources in accordance with the *Cultural Resource Management Policy* and the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. Impact assessments are implemented in accordance with internal directives and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.*

The Government of Canada's Treasury Board *Policy Framework for the Management of Assets and Acquired Services* governs the management of federal assets, such as buildings. This Framework applies to the Memorial Church at Grand-Pré National Historic Site and lays out principles for managing such assets. Parks Canada monitors and reports on the condition of its national historic sites in various ways. The Commemorative Integrity Evaluation assesses the condition of cultural resources, the effectiveness of communicating related messages, and the implementation of appropriate practices for managing cultural resources. The Visitor Experience Assessment provides insight into the different aspects of a visitor's experience, from trip planning to onsite services and programs. Annual stakeholder reports on management-plan implementation are also prepared. Starting in 2009, and every 10 years after that, a *State of the Site Report* compiles all the available information on the site's condition and is made available to the public. Expert resources in archaeology, history, architecture, and planning are available internally or through Public Works and Government Services Canada to ensure the proper design and implementation of activities and structures.

d) Grand Pre Marsh Body

The Grand Pre Marsh Body typically plans work around major drainage and ditches. It also plans work on the privately-owned roads that are not managed by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. See Figure 12 for an example of drainage work.

Figure 12 - Drainage work on a field in Hortonville.

e) Coordinated Stewardship

Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated coordinates the resources and activities of the different jurisdictions by providing the overall strategic direction necessary for the protection of the World Heritage Site. The structure of the Board and its reliance on expert committees ensure a focus on the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value, quality advice to the jurisdictions, and consideration of the many diverse issues and responsibilities at play in this complex regulatory environment. In addition, it is responsible for the implementation of this management plan and of all other management documents for the inscribed property.

6.2.2.3 Sustainable Tourism: Presentation, Interpretation, Services

Promotion and presentation of tourism in the Grand Pré area is a shared responsibility. Annapolis Valley Tourism is a not-for-profit organization that is a voice for the tourism industry in the area. It focuses on facilitating an integrated approach to marketing, promotion, product development, and visitor services for businesses. The Municipality of the County of Kings is supportive of the tourism industry in the area and permits land uses for businesses that are related to tourism. Parks Canada, at the national historic site, provides a key tourism experience in the region.

Tourism has been a staple activity of the area. Past visitor numbers were significantly higher with approximately 62,000 visitors per year in the late 1990s. Since then, those numbers have declined to just over 24,000 in 2012; the year the Landscape of Grand Pré was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Since then, the number has steadily increased to more than 39,000 in 2019. Those numbers from the 1990s suggest that the property can accommodate a higher number of visitors without causing negative impacts on the physical environment or decreasing the quality of the visitor's experience.

The National Historic Site is the main tourism attraction in Grand Pré. Parks Canada has invested in the site's redevelopment by acquiring new properties and building a visitor centre which opened its doors in 2003. The focus of the exhibit in the visitor centre is on the messages of national significance for that site. The Société Promotion Grand-Pré and Parks Canada work together to offer programs and experiences to visitors.

Visitors to the World Heritage Site can experience heritage in the community by visiting the national historic site and the View Park, observing heritage properties along Old Post Road and Grand Pré Road, and seeing the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaques commemorating the arrival of the New England Planters, the National Historic Rural District, the Attack at Grand Pré, Sir Robert Borden and the Covenanter Church.

Most of the other attractions in the vicinity of the inscribed property, such as the Grand Pré Wines, the Covenanter Church, the campground, and other tourism services are located in the World Heritage Site's buffer zone. As most attractions are located along Highway 1 and Grand Pré Road, these are the ones that concentrate traffic. Services are currently located in the hamlet of Grand Pré and at the exit of highway 101.

Local history is presented through an exhibit on the New England Planters in Kentville, at the Grand-Pré National Historic Site, and at the Town of Wolfville's Randall House Community Museum. A number of interpretive panels and plaques located within the World Heritage Site present the various significant aspects or the area's cultural heritage.

Signage discourages visitor access to the dyke walls, dyke roads and the dykelands due to the operation of large farming equipment, to protect private property and reduce impacts on the dykes. Visitors are encouraged to appreciate the dykelands from a distance, from Grand-Pré National Historic Site, from the Harvest Moon Trailway, and from the View Park on Old Post Road. Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated provides a wayfinding brochure highlighting these vantage points.

A Tourism Strategy and Interpretation Framework was prepared by Hockin Cronin Associates in 2010 for Nomination Grand Pré. It identified key opportunities to interpret the values of the site, facilitate visitor experiences, and manage visitor traffic while protecting the integrity of the site and the local residents' quality of life. It clearly articulates that the *Landscape of Grand Pré* already benefits from key tourism infrastructure and services, as well as appropriate regulation that limit the potential for conflict between tourism and agriculture. Finally, it highlights that the projected increase in visitation will not negatively affect the site or provide significant new business opportunities. As such, the current tourism-related infrastructure and services are sustainable and can take advantage of the inscription to increase revenues and enhance tourists' experience.

In 2021, Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. engaged consultants to develop a visitor experience concept and feasibility study for the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site. The concept presented in November 2021 included the development of substantial new facilities to convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Landscape.

The development of the concept involved considerable engagement with key stakeholders and with the public. The first outcome of the engagement phase was to develop principles to establish a foundation

on which to build the concept design. The following principles were reviewed and commented on by the stakeholders and guided the co-creation phase.

1. **Collaboration for mutual benefit** – Many organizations, groups, businesses, and individuals are interested in collaborating to maximize the View Park experience. This collaboration can be tied to the Outstanding Universal Value around peace and cultural sharing. Collaboration may involve programming, events, shared infrastructure, tourism product development or interpretive services.

2. **The View Park focuses on the view to help people appreciate and emotionally connect with the Landscape** - The Landscape evokes different feelings for different people depending on their history, connection, culture or experience. The ability to focus on that visual connection through different means is critical to the experience at the View Park.

3. **The View Park is accessible** – The concept plan and recommendations will meet or exceed the standards for accessibility for those disabled by barriers, while making the site accessible for all who wish to experience it.

4. **Sharing, equity and reconciliation are embodied in the concept plan** – The Visitor Experience Concept recognizes the intertwining of Acadian, Planter, Mi'kmaq experiences, culture, and history of the Acadians, descendants of the Planters, Mi'kmaq, and current residents. The vision and generosity of the local community in helping to create the View Park as a peaceful space of gathering is celebrated.

5. **The Visitor Experience Concept is distinct from the Grand-Pré Historic National Site**, which celebrates Acadian culture and commemorates "Le Grand Dérangement" – The NHS will be a main entry point, while the View Park and beyond will be a companion to the NHS where the landscape, the living agricultural features well as natural elements are showcased.
6. **The Visitor Experience Concept will look beyond the View Park** - The concept will capture ideas and connect places that are not necessarily within the 5-acre site. Infrastructure will be of a high calibre international stature, but remain light touch and simple in order to protect the view.

7. **The Visitor Experience Concept is based on principles of sustainability** – The concept will embrace the characteristics of sustainability by considering design principles and experiences that are environmentally compatible, contribute economically, nurture social inclusion, and preserve culturally significant elements and the sense of place.

While the final report fulfills the terms of the contract awarded through a request for proposals, the Board of Directors has not endorsed its recommendations. The public engagement process has yielded a variety of perspectives regarding the project, and there was no consensus on how to move forward. Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. has therefore conducted further public engagement regarding the visitor experience concept. Using the final report as a starting point, the public and stakeholders were invited to offer their comments regarding the concept. As ad hoc advisory group was created to review the report and consider options to move forward. New ideas emerged out of these discussions which were held on May 16 and 26, 2022.

On June 16, 2022, community members were invited to attend an open house at the Horton Community Centre to learn more about options being considered for the development of a visitor experience concept and to share their ideas.
The meetings with the advisory group and the open house have revealed the following:

a) There is little support for further development of the View Park, although improved interpretive signage, a peace circle, washrooms/water station and an expanded community park merit additional consideration;
b) The participants in the public engagement process did not support the development of a new building/interpretive centre to convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) at the View Park or at another location in the Landscape;
c) The participants expressed support for exploring the expansion of the existing Grand-Pré National Historic Site visitor centre in order to convey the OUV and to also help connect and orient people to other locations within the Landscape;
d) The participants support the development of a multi-use trail linking the View Park, Grand-Pré National Historic Site and the Harvest Moon Trailway with benches, better accessibility, signage and interpretive elements;
e) There was support for the development of a Mi'kmaw heritage component in the area where the blacksmith shop is located;
f) The participants expressed support for the development of a "working" aboiteau display as proposed in the visitor experience concept (this was one of the elements for which people expressed the most interest);
g) The participants were supportive of exploring the development of the "Railway Station" as proposed in the visitor experience concept;
h) The participants expressed support for the extension of the Harvest Moon Trailway to Hortonville, site of the New England Planter commemoration and Deportation Cross. Many people wanted to see more connection from the Parks Canada administered lands to other sites within the landscape in general, i.e., Nova Scotia's Blue Route, orientation map at NHS, or digital map to facilitate further exploration;
i) The participants expressed a desire to see full and balanced representation of the World Heritage Site (historical and contemporary uses, Mi'kmaq, Acadian, Planter, Agriculture, as well as serving and welcoming current community);
j) The participants indicated that they value the quiet, openness and ecological features of the area and want to see this considered in development plans (this was mentioned specifically with reference to the View Park and along the boundary of the Harvest Moon Trailway);
k) People seemed supportive of the amended visitor experience concept and those that considered the principles felt that the concept aligned them.

6.2.2.4 Sustainable Agriculture

Ensuring agricultural sustainability is a responsibility shared by multiple partners, including the Department of Agriculture, the Municipality of the County of Kings, and the Grand Pre Marsh Body. Despite a vibrant agricultural economy at Grand Pré in 2014, the aging population and socio-economic data suggests concerns around the long-term sustainability of agriculture generally in Nova Scotia. These concerns are mainly around profitability, encouraging the next generation of farmers, and maintaining agricultural land.

Profitability is an indication of market value and is defined by supply and demand. Adaptation to those realities is key to ensuring profitability and allowing farmers to actively work on the land, thus protecting the dykelands. The Department of Agriculture is committed to the development of a competitive, sustainable, and profitable agricultural industry. In addition to providing a comprehensive agricultural legislative and regulatory framework, the Department provides agriculture and land protection supports, business development programs, business risk management and crop and livestock insurance, including emergency and disaster relief.

The Municipality of the County of Kings has a history of commitment to the protection of agriculture in the county, starting with the 2020 Municipal Planning Strategy. That strategy, includes several tools (e.g., zoning, site plans, development agreement), to protect and help preserve prime agricultural lands for farming. The land use planning review component of KINGS 2050 has enabled the Municipality to re-examine policies, including agricultural policies, through the lens of sustainability.

The Municipality has been a strong advocate of maintaining a federal research facility because of its role in sustaining local agriculture. The Government of Canada has committed to maintaining that facility and providing resources for it to operate.

The Municipality of the County of Kings has focused its Grand Pré and Area Community Plan on maintaining agricultural use and environmental open space designation, which in effect provides land to the industry to sustain itself and thrive. The Community Plan for Grand Pré and Area thus allows for the continuance of agricultural activity and encourages the agricultural industry.

Figure 13 - Farmers at work. The community of Grand Pré and area has a vibrant agricultural economy that is essential to the maintenance of the dykes and the marshland.

7.0 Buffer Zone

7.1 Purpose of the buffer zone

The purpose of the buffer zone is fourfold:

- *To provide long-term capacity to maintain the agricultural economy*: most of the area within and outside the boundary is currently part of the agricultural district. As farmers and dyke landowners do not all live within the boundary, but most live in close proximity, the buffer zone identifies an area to focus attention to support the agricultural industry.

- *To identify areas to manage tourism access and services:* although the current main heritage attraction in the community is the National Historic Site which is located inside the inscribed property, most of the services are located in the buffer zone, in North Grand Pré, in the hamlet outside the boundary and at exit 10 of highway 101. The existing infrastructure and services allow for managing visitor traffic and tourism pressure inside the property. The concentration at the highway exit and in the hamlet focuses traffic along highway 1 and Grand Pré road and directs visitors towards the tourism node at the National Historic Site.

- *To identify areas where activities may have an impact on the integrity of the dykes:* dykes are most vulnerable to coastal erosion. Activities to mitigate that impact have been left to the initiative of different departments and individuals. A holistic approach to monitoring and mitigating the effects of coastal erosion is recognised, including the identification of sensitive areas outside of the inscribed property that need to be included in the coordinated approach.

- To protect the visual connection between Grand-Pré NHS and Cape Blomidon and Horton Landing and Cape Blomidon, a recognizable nearby landmark that contributes to the sense of place for the inscribed property.

7.2 Policies and Strategies

Municipal regulations applicable in the buffer zone include several controls that support and complement the policies and legislation in place inside the inscribed property.

These include:

- Municipal policies through the *Community Plan for Grand Pré and Area*;
- Provincial policies through the Department of Agriculture's policies regarding agricultural activities, the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage through the *Special Places Protection Act* for archaeological sites, the Department of Natural Resources through the *Beaches Act*, and the Department of the Environment for the management of salt marshes;
- Federal policies and legislation concerning natural water management through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans; and,
- Several other provincial and federal policies regarding protected natural heritage areas and heritage properties.

7.2.1 Municipal policies

Existing land use control policies in the buffer zone emphasize the protection of agricultural land and identify commercial areas. The exception is the Shoreland District in the buffer zone, which is essentially the residential (cottages – many seasonal) area at Evangeline Beach in North Grand Pré. The policies to protect agricultural land in the buffer zone are identical to those regarding the protection of agricultural land inside the inscribed property. This is due to the agricultural district covering an area that includes the communities of North Grand Pré, Hortonville, and Lower Wolfville and lands adjacent to the Grand Pré Historic Hamlet. The policies are aimed at preserving the lands for agricultural use.

Commercial areas are identified along Highway 1 and Grand Pré Road, in nodes close to the exit from Highway 101 and to the crossroads at Highway 1 and Grand Pré Road. These areas focus on providing basic conveniences to surrounding rural residents, commercial uses, service resource industry and tourist-oriented uses. North Grand Pré provides services for recreational purposes, such as a campground. The community plan will continue to permit small scale commercial activity in these existing commercial nodes, so long as they are in it keeping with the rural setting and way of life, and do not negatively impact agricultural activities in the area.

The Municipality has building restrictions in North Grand Pré along the shoreline. Those restrictions are in place to ensure the protection of property. Monitoring of shore erosion and mitigation measures implemented are the responsibility of individual landowners.

The municipal policies enable and support the agricultural use of the marshland by protecting land from inappropriate development and favouring the agricultural industry. They also address the protection of the inscribed property's setting by controlling densification of the area and maintaining the primarily agricultural and low-density character of the community.

7.2.2 Provincial policies

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture has policies in place to support agricultural activities.

It maintains dykes by monitoring their condition and implementing mitigation measures, such as stabilizing dykes by facing them with stone to reduce the impact of waves and tides on more vulnerable areas. In 2020, the Department of Agriculture has initiated the Nova Scotia Dykeland System Upgrades Project, funded in part by the Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund (DMAF). The purpose of this project is to upgrade select marshlands (dyke and aboiteaux structures) in the province to prepare for the effects of climate change. The Grand Pré marshlands, incorporated under the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*, have been included in this project.

Archaeological resources are managed under the *Special Places Protection Act*.

The provisions of the *Beaches Act* apply where beaches exist, as defined in the A*ct*. This limits the extraction of material from beaches, helping to protect the dykes.

The Nova Scotia Department of the Environment is responsible for the protection of salt marshes. Approval from the Department is required to alter a salt marsh, except for the maintenance of lands and structures incorporated by marsh bodies under the Marshland Conservation Act.

Policies applying to the salt marshes outside the Grand Pré dykes support the protection of the Grand Pré marsh.

7.2.3 Federal policies

Policies and legislation that relate to the management of aquatic ecosystems and water management apply in the area outside the dykes. These policies are enforced by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Activities allowed under these policies support the protection of the inscribed property. Fisheries and Oceans Canada has worked with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture on a policy to ensure that departmental mandates are addressed harmoniously and that salt marsh extraction and drainage cleaning do not interfere with the protection of fish habitats.

7.2.4 Other Significant Heritage Areas

The buffer zone includes other significant heritage areas such as:

- The National Wildlife Area on Boot Island: managed by the Canadian Wildlife Service, the federal agency responsible for national wildlife sanctuaries and areas, it is protected under the Wildlife Area Regulations of the *Canada Wildlife Act*. The Service monitors the condition of wildlife, ecosystems, and coastal erosion on the Island. The management of Boot Island supports the protection of the inscribed property.
- The municipal Grand Pré Heritage Conservation District, managed under municipal bylaw and focuses on architectural preservation.
- Provincially designated properties: several privately-owned residential properties are designated on the province of Nova Scotia's *Heritage Properties Act*.
- The Southern Bight – Minas Basin Wetland of International Importance (or Ramsar Site): the responsible authority is the Canadian Wildlife Service. It monitors the condition of the wetland.
- The Grand-Pré Rural Historic District National Historic Site of Canada: designated by the Government of Canada under the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act*, the area includes private and public property. The site does not have a management plan. Properties located within the designated area and that are of significant importance for the designation as a national historic site may benefit from federal government financial assistance for conservation and interpretation.
- The Covenanter Church National Historic Site of Canada: the site is privately-owned and is an important landmark in the Grand Pré area.

Each heritage area, each jurisdiction and individual landowner's actions contribute to protecting the Landscape of Grand Pré's integrity and its setting. Together these policies and controls ensure that:

- Tourism activities and development are controlled in order to minimize land use conflicts and manage potential negative impacts on the inscribed property;

- Agriculture remains an essential part of the community's economy and identity by protecting land and implementing policies that designate agricultural land use areas.

Figure 14 - Vineyard in the buffer zone. This type of agricultural activity is expanding significantly in the area and wineries are now prime tourism attractions. (Photo credit: Jamie Robertson)

8.0 Protecting the Outstanding Universal Value

The inscribed property and its buffer zone are protected from development, environmental, and tourism pressures as follows:

- The dykelands are managed through the application of the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act* and the zoning limitations as indicated in the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* by maintaining agricultural use and restricting construction of permanent structures as the land is below sea level and thus considered to be a hazard area for any development. The act recognizes and provides authority to the *Grand Pre Marsh Body* to manage the dykelands collaboratively and thus support ongoing agricultural use.
- The dykes, *aboiteaux*, field patterns, drainage outlets are managed through the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*, the policies of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, and the stewardship of the Grand Pre Marsh Body by maintaining the dykes, *aboiteaux*, and drainage outlets based on the compatible materials, identical technology, and similar principles. These being maintained, the organically evolved design of field patterns on the dykelands is preserved. Finally, the coastal change monitoring programme (sharing of data between provincial departments and the municipality) will monitor the rate and severity of coastal erosion outside the inscribed property and guide the definition of appropriate action.

- Agriculture land use on the uplands is regulated through the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan*, which maintains zoning that favours agriculture.
- Continuance of the field patterns on the uplands is supported by the *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* which maintains zoning favourable to agriculture, limits densification, and establishes minimum lot sizes. Field patterns of Parks Canada administered property are managed through the *Cultural Resource Management Policy* which respects the historic value of the fields.
- Archaeological heritage is managed on lands under provincial jurisdiction through the application of the *Special Places Protection Act* and the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage*. Both ensure that proper archaeological principles and practices are applied in investigating, mitigating impacts, and conserving archaeological heritage. On land administered by Parks Canada, archaeological heritage is protected under the *Cultural Resource Management Policy;* various guidelines, policies, and directives as applicable; and the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage.* Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. developed a program in 2021 which covers the costs of archaeological assessments for landowners who wish to develop their property. This has been a very successful initiative which has been renewed for 2022/2023.
- The *Grand Pré and Area Community Plan* encourages the protection of these roads. On lands administered by Parks Canada, historic roads are managed under the *Cultural Resource Management Policy* which protects them.
- Cemeteries and burials under provincial jurisdiction are managed according to the *Cemeteries Protection Act*. On lands administered by Parks Canada, cemeteries and burials are managed according to the appropriate directives.
- Tourism pressure is managed cooperatively between Parks Canada, the Société Promotion Grand-Pré, the Grand Pre Marsh Body, the Municipality of the County of Kings, and the local community. They ensure that visitors have access to interpretation and services at the National Historic Site; access to information about local destinations; and signage to direct them find their way around.
- The memorials are managed under the *Parks Canada Agency Act*, the *Cultural Resource Management Policy,* and the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places* that ensure their protection and conservation.
- The overall protection of the inscribed property is also supported through the terms of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the different member organizations of Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. The original MOU, signed in 2011, has been reviewed and updated in 2022 and is awaiting signature.

9.0 Natural Disaster and Risk Preparedness

9.1 Risks

The inscribed property is vulnerable to strong storms throughout the year. During Atlantic hurricane season, which typically extends from June to November, it is sometimes in the path of tropical storms.

The main risk is for the area to flood due to a combination of exceptionally high tides and strong winds, or as a result of dyke failure.

Fire is another risk due to natural events. Of the built memorials in the inscribed property, the most at risk is the Memorial Church at the Grand-Pré National Historic Site.

9.2 Roles, responsibilities, and coordination in the event of a natural disaster

Risk preparedness is a shared responsibility between jurisdictions. Given the agricultural character of the Landscape of Grand Pré and few built structures, risks are minimised.

The Municipality of the County of Kings has an Emergency Preparedness Plan managed by its Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), in accordance with the Province of Nova Scotia's *Emergency Management Act*. The Municipality may request assistance from the provincial Emergency Management Office if the severity of the emergency requires it. The EMC focuses on protecting lives and personal property.

In case of dyke rupture or flooding of the dykelands, the Department of Agriculture implements its own emergency preparedness plan that addresses the main priorities and resources for consideration during an event. The Municipality of the County of Kings' EMC is the first responder and coordinates with the Department of Agriculture to stabilise the dykes. The priority of the Department of Agriculture is to protect the dykes and the farmland.

Financial assistance is available to those farmers whose fields may have been affected by dyke failure. Depending on the severity of the damage, financial assistance may come from the Province of Nova Scotia or Canada.

Parks Canada is responsible for the protection of the memorials. The agency has protocols and tools in place to react to fires. These include a direct line to the fire department, fire alarms, and fire suppressant mechanisms in the visitor centre and in the Memorial Church. In addition, the memorials details have been documented to provide information in case there should be a need to repair or rebuild. The fire department is responsible for coordinating the incident response.

Emergency preparedness, response and management activities are under the jurisdiction of the Regional Emergency Management Organization. The Kings Regional Management Plan covers the Emergency management for the inscribed property and buffer zone. Emergency measures are the responsibility of the Emergency Management Co-ordinator, an employee of the Municipality of the County of Kings.

9.3 Principles for mitigating risk

In order to mitigate impacts, a natural disaster management framework was prepared that outline roles and responsibilities and procedures to address natural disasters.

As there are multiple jurisdictions that have authority to manage the consequences of a natural disaster depending on its severity, principles were prepared to help guide their preparation, intervention and recovery actions.

These principles include:

- Preparedness will focus on providing additional protection against the main risks to the key attributes that support the Outstanding Universal Value and integrates relevant heritage considerations within the overall disaster prevention strategy;
- Training on the inscribed property's Outstanding Universal Value, key attributes, and conservation considerations will be provided to jurisdictional managers and emergency management officers;
- During responses, every effort will be made to maintain the integrity of the key attributes;
- Recovery actions and mitigation activities will maintain the integrity and authenticity of the key attributes linked to the Outstanding Universal Value;
- Regular review and update of response plans will ensure that adequate strategies are in place;
- The response plan is conceived in terms of the whole property, and provides integrated concern for the structures, the archaeological sites, and the landscape features.

9.4 Key elements of risk preparedness

Emergency management focuses on the before, during and after of particular events. Therefore, risk preparedness is one aspect of emergency management.

For the inscribed property, the natural disaster management framework outlines preparedness, response, and recovery actions. It focuses strictly on managing these with relation to protecting the inscribed property's Outstanding Universal Value and key attributes, and addresses some elements of visitor management.

10.0 Monitoring and Reporting

10.1 Monitoring of condition of archaeological heritage

A monitoring programme was developed to coordinate the work of the Heritage Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, and of Parks Canada as both have authority within their jurisdiction to protect archaeological heritage.

The programme focuses on setting indicators and timelines for monitoring condition. In addition, it outlines the role of partners. Details of that programme are included in the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage*. Information is provided to the site manager for reporting on the condition of the inscribed property.

10.2 Monitoring of coastal change

Monitoring of coastal change requires a concerted effort to ensure that there is a comprehensive understanding of coastline movements as a result of erosion and salt marsh regeneration. An overview of coastal changes is included in the *Overview of Coastal Change Influences on the Landscape of Grand Pré* report, it provides details observed through a comparison of aerial photographs between the 1960s and the early 2000s, use of LiDAR imagery, and data from Boot Island compiled over the past two decades.

The jurisdictions that have authority in areas along the coastline included in the buffer zone are:

- The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture: as the department responsible for the maintenance of the dykes, it monitors the condition of the dykes themselves, the *aboiteaux*, and the salt marsh outside the dykes. The latter is the main source of building material for the dykes. Grasses and sod are extracted directly next to a dyke when they need to be topped or repaired.
- The Nova Scotia Department of Environment: the department has authority over the salt marsh.
- The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources: the department is responsible for the implementation of the *Beaches Act* and is responsible for permitting coastline mitigation measures.
- The Canadian Wildlife Service: the federal service is responsible for the Boot Island National Wildlife Area and has an ongoing coastal erosion program in place.
- The Parks Canada Agency: the federal agency owns property at Horton Landing which extends to the mean high tide watermark.
- The Municipality of the County of Kings: the municipality has zoned an area along the north side of Long Island as coastal and allows for a rolling setback to be implemented. The municipality is also responsible for reviewing coastal erosion mitigation measures.

A coastal change monitoring programme has been initiated to collect data on coastline changes around the inscribed property. That data will be primarily collected by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Parks Canada Agency, and the Municipality of the County of Kings.

For the purposes of reporting on the condition of the inscribed property, GPS linked data will be collected at set points along the coastline within the buffer zone every two years. This information will be shared with the Site Management Coordinator. Data may be collected more regularly by individual provincial departments.

In addition, best practices are being explored by the Department of Agriculture and its partners to improve salt marsh extraction for dyke maintenance, to allow for fast recovery of the ecosystem.

10.3 Indicators

Each agency has its own reporting mechanism and condition indicators that are in compliance with its individual legislated mandate regulating its activities. Below is an overview of the condition indicators for the entire inscribed property of the Landscape of Grand Pré and provide a measure of performance for the three goals set in this management plan as they relate to its protection, interpretation and promotion, and the sense of connection to the place.

Table 4 - Reporting mechanism and condition indicators

Objective	Indicator	Periodicity	Location of Records
Provide for the protection, continuing agricultural use and appreciation	Integrity of archaeological heritage	3 years	Parks Canada administrated land – New Brunswick North Field Unit Other lands – Special Places Program, Heritage Division
	Impact of development on archaeological heritage and other heritage attributes	3 years	Parks Canada administrated land – New Brunswick North Field Unit Other lands – Special Places Program, Heritage Division
	Percentage of land used for agricultural purposes in property and in buffer zone	5 years	Municipality of the County of Kings
	Integrity of the marsh, the dykes, the main drainage patterns, and of the coastline in the buffer	5 years	Department of Agriculture Grand Pre Marsh Body Canadian Wildlife Service Municipality of the County of Kings
	Integrity of the historic road patterns	5 years	Municipality of the County of Kings
Enrich the existing tourism destination by promoting wide recognition, understanding and appreciation of the educational and cultural values represented by the *Landscape of Grand Pré*	Increase in visibility and visitation	3 years	Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated, Nova Scotia Tourism Agency/Parks Canada Agency
Instil a strong sense of shared community pride and stewardship in the protection, interpretation and promotion of the *Landscape of Grand Pré*	Incidence of stakeholder and authority collaboration to conserve archaeological sites and other forms of heritage	Annually	Parks Canada administrated land – New Brunswick North Field Unit Other lands – Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage
	Number of Acadian visitors to the area	5 years	Parks Canada
	Number of research projects	3 years	Parks Canada administrated land – New Brunswick North Field Unit

			Other lands – Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage

10.4 Reporting

This section provides information on the agencies responsible for monitoring the condition of the property.

Parks Canada is the federal agency responsible for monitoring and reporting on the condition of cultural resources on lands it administers. It also reports on visitation numbers, origin, and trends, as well as visitor satisfaction. Finally, it may report on the number of research projects it has permitted on the land it administers.

The Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage is the provincial agency responsible for monitoring, recording and reporting on the condition of archaeological sites on non-federal lands. It may report on the number of research projects is has permitted.

The Department of Agriculture is the provincial agency responsible for monitoring and reporting on the condition of the dykes, drainage patterns, and *aboiteaux*. The Grand Pre Marsh Body may also provide some of this information.

The Municipality of the County of Kings is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the condition of land use and the historic roads.

Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated, as the site management coordinator, is responsible for reporting to the World Heritage Committee and to stakeholders on the condition of the property. It will prepare the periodic report based on the information provided by the different responsible authorities.

11.0 Implementation and Review

11.1 Resources

In order to manage the property, numerous organizations provide expert and financial resources.

The Parks Canada Agency, as the federal agency with expertise in protected heritage areas and as a significant landowner within the inscribed property, invests in the protection, interpretation and tourism infrastructure of the national historic site, and provides expertise as needed in such areas as archaeology, history, protected heritage area planning, and conservation.

The Province of Nova Scotia provides resources for the maintenance of the dykes through the Department of Agriculture. It maintains staff, including a dykeland construction supervisor (regional office with seasonal crew), engineering support, and a team of technical professionals who are responsible for the Operational and Maintenance Plan of the Provincial Dykeland system. The budget is allocated based on operational priorities. In addition, a cost sharing program for Main outlet drainage provides resources for the farmers to carry out their work. The costs are shared between the province and the Marsh Body for work on drainage and ditches under this program. Annual Dyke expenditures are now $2 million. There is no breakdown for allocated maintenance dollars. Drainage assistance is provided to Marsh Bodies to do Main Outlet Drainage work. Ditching is assisted on at a 60%-40% split with the province paying the 60%.

The provincial department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage provides resources for the management of archaeological heritage in the province, except on federal lands. It currently has one permanent staff member responsible for the implementation of the *Special Places Act*, under which archaeological permitting is regulated. The Heritage Division of the department has staff with expertise in archaeology, curation, conservation, and heritage building conservation. The *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré* prepared in 2010 outlines the use of those resources. Furthermore, the province unveiled its heritage strategy in 2008 which outlines key priorities for the province, including the protection of World Heritage sites.

The Municipality of the County of Kings has resources on staff in planning, geographical information system analysis, and cartography. These are essential to the ongoing management of land use and activities, and for ongoing reporting.

11.2 Roles and Responsibilities

Federal and provincial governments have a legal duty to consult, in this case, with the Mi'kmaq, when making decisions or contemplating making decisions that could adversely impact Mi'kmaw rights or title.

Each regulatory authority retains the authority to manage and determine policies for the lands under its jurisdiction. As such, the federal government, through the Parks Canada Agency, is responsible for the management and the protection of resources on lands it administers. The Municipality of the County of Kings is responsible for land use and activities on lands on and off the marshland, except for provincial and federal land. The Marsh Body and the Department of Agriculture have management authority under

the *Agricultural Marshland Conservation Act*. The Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage has authority to protect archaeological sites under the *Special Places Protection Act*.

These authorities and key stakeholders have formed a not-for-profit corporation (2016) to act as site manager: Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated. The mandate of this corporation is to:

- To protect and preserve the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site, in Grand Pré, Nova Scotia;
- To educate the public and increase its appreciation and awareness of the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site and its history.

The authorities will work with Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated to provide the necessary information to complete periodic reports on the condition of the property to the World Heritage Committee. The Executive Director of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated sits on the Canadian Network of World Heritage Sites and liaise with the Canadian Delegation to the World Heritage Committee.

11.3 Duration of the Management Plan

This plan is valid for ten years, reviewed every five years beginning in 2022 (as was done previously in 2014 and 2018). Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated is responsible for reviewing this plan in collaboration with the regulatory authorities and key stakeholders. The review shall focus on the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value and shall be in accordance with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention as well as the legislation and policies in force at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels.

12.0 Priority Actions

Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated has prepared a Strategic Plan which outlines the key strategies and objectives which form part of the priority actions of the Corporation. The Strategic Plan was approved in 2018 and will be reviewed and updated in 2023.

Priority actions over the next five years include:

a) *Completing the UNESCO Periodic Reporting for World Heritage Sites;*
b) Completing the review and implementing the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré;*
c) *Working with partners to complete the development and implementation of a visitor experience concept to convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the Landscape;*
d) *Providing input into the development and implementation of the Dykelands System Upgrades Project;*
e) *Reviewing and implementing the dykelands awareness strategy to provide increased awareness of the need to protect the dykelands;*

f) *Developing opportunities for promoting the Landscape and engaging with communities of interest;*
g) *Developing partnerships to support the protection and promotion of the Landscape;*
h) *Completing the review and signing of a Memorandum of Understanding which sets out the means by which the member organizations forming part of Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated agree to collaborate through mutual understanding and assistance to support the management of the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site.*

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