

# Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. Board of Directors Meeting 9:00 a.m. April 16, 2020 Conference call

In attendance:

Géraldine Arsenault (joined10:05 a.m.) Mark Bannerman Gérald Boudreau

Anne Curry Yvon Fontaine Emily Lutz

Marilyn Perkins Beverly Palmeter Ernest Thibodeau (joined 10:00 a.m.)

Other attendees:

Claude DeGrâce, Executive Director (ED)

Regrets:

Andrew Murphy

## 1. Welcome, verify quorum, call to order

Beverly Palmeter, Chair of Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. (LGPI), welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. having a quorum of directors in attendance.

## 2. Review and approval of the agenda

- 1. Welcome, verify quorum, call to order
- 2. Review and approval of the agenda
- 3. Review Draft Operational Plan
- 4. Governance and Nominating Committee Report
  - a) Executive Director Policy
  - b) Finance and Audit Committee
- 5. *In-camera* session committee appointments
- 6. Considerations regarding COVID-19
- 7. Adjournment

<u>MOTION:</u> To approve the agenda as presented. Moved by Gérald Boudreau, seconded by Marilyn Perkins Motion carried; Resolution 20BOD.April.16.001

## 3. Review Draft Operational Plan

The ED provided an overview of the Draft Operational Plan which had been circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. He informed the Board that the documentation prepared by Nomination Grand Pré had been reviewed and that the Tourism Strategy and Interpretation Framework had been useful in determining the types of projects and scope of development envisioned before the inscription of the Landscape of Grand Pré on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Both documents can be found on the Nomination Grand Pré webpage (<a href="http://nominationgrandpre.ca/documents.html">http://nominationgrandpre.ca/documents.html</a>). The ED indicated that the proposed development concept, feasibility study and business plan for the View Park, Horton Landing and a possible Gateway Centre would only be undertaken if the federal and provincial governments were supportive of the initiative. This support would be sought by contacting Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Tourism Nova Scotia to determine the level of support which could be provided. The following are highlights from the Operational Plan:

#### a) View Park

The ED suggested that the main focus of the Corporation should be the View Park as it provides the best view of the World Heritage Site. It is anticipated that the View Park, which was identified by UNESCO for its view plane, will become the central location from which visitors will be able to have an overall appreciation of the values associated with the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site. It is currently under-developed and not used to its full potential. The proposed feasibility study could consider an incremental development approach and explore the idea of a *Musée en plein air – Open-air museum*.

#### b) Horton Landing

As Horton Landing was also identified by UNESCO for its outstanding view plane, the proposed feasibility study would address the issue of safe access to the site for individuals and groups as well as basic interpretive media.

#### c) Gateway Centre

As this was one of the major elements identified in the 2010 Nomination Grand Pré Tourism Strategy and Interpretation Framework, it was felt that it would be worth further exploration. The ED suggested that this type of facility would only be developed through a multi-stakeholder partnership.

The ED explained that the table included in the Draft Operational Plan was a first attempt at listing the activities required for the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

It was suggested that more discussion was required before the approval of the Operational Plan.

The Board of Directors expressed support in principle for the document and the following specific comments were noted:

- the document does not resolve the operational funding required for the long-term financial sustainability of the Corporation;
- the addition of a time line and who would achieve the various actions would be useful;
- the inclusion of costs for implementing the various actions is required;
- the Operational Plan should more clearly link the proposed development initiatives to the long-term operational funding requirements;
- the document provides a clear overview of the actions required to implement the Strategic Plan;
- the second strategic priority needs to be strengthened and the Corporation has to indicate how it will work with partners, including universities, to achieve its Strategic Plan;
- an action plan for the current year as well as projections for the following year should be included;
- the Draft Operation Plan represents a great start for implementing the Strategic Plan;
- as communications and engagement with communities and stakeholders was previously identified as a weakness, the Operational Plan has to focus on addressing this issue; and
- it is important to use the local area newsletter and distribution list as a way to share LGPI news.

In terms of engaging and consulting all the communities, it was agreed that this should be included in the proposed feasibility study.

<u>MOTION:</u> That the Board approve in principle the Draft Operational Plan and that the ED explore the availability of potential support from funding partners for the proposed feasibility study before seeking Board approval to proceed.

Moved by Emily Lutz, seconded by Gérald Boudreau

Motion carried with one abstention (Anne Curry); Resolution 20BOD.April.16.002

#### 4. Governance and Nominating Committee Report

Gérald Boudreau, Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee (GNC), presented his report which had been circulated to the Board.

a) Executive Director Policy

**MOTION:** To approve the Executive Director Policy as presented effective immediately.

Moved by Gérald Boudreau, seconded by Anne Curry

Motion carried; Resolution 20BOD.April.16.003

b) Finance and Audit Committee

Mr. Boudreau informed the Board that the GNC had consulted with the Corporation's lawyers regarding the proposed Terms of Reference including the membership of the Finance and Audit Committee and that it was determined that the Treasurer of the Corporation should not be a member of this committee.

**MOTION:** To approve the Terms of Reference for the Finance and Audit Committee as presented effective immediately.

Moved by Gérald Boudreau, seconded by Anne Curry Motion carried; Resolution 20BOD.April.16.004

## 5. Committee appointments

The Board considered going *in-camera* for this item. After deliberation, it was decided that this would not be necessary.

The Chair explained that a document proposing the nominees had been circulated to the Board just prior to the meeting. The Board considered the nominee proposals made by the GNC.

**MOTION:** That Marilyn Perkins be appointed Chair of the Education and Marketing Committee and that Juliana Barnard, Amy MacDonald and Marc Poirier be appointed members of the committee. Moved by Gérald Boudreau, seconded by Anne Curry Motion carried; Resolution 20BOD.April.16.005

<u>MOTION:</u> That Anne Curry be appointed Chair of the Technical Advisory Committee and that Tony Bowron, Catherine Cottreau-Robbins, Madelyn LeMay and David Smith be appointed members of the committee.

Moved by Gérald Boudreau, seconded by Emily Lutz Motion carried; Resolution 20BOD.April.16.006

## 6. Considerations regarding COVID-19

The ED explained that the COVID-19 situation had forced the closure of the Corporation's office in Wolfville, but that he had been working from his home where he has access to all the digital files of the Corporation. The ED indicated that he had maintained contact with the Administrative and Financial Services contractors. He indicated that remittances had been filed with the Canada Revenue Agency and that the Corporation's credit card had been received.

The ED informed the Board that all expenses now paid by the contractors on behalf of the Corporation would be transferred to the Corporation's credit card.

Géraldine Arsenault informed the Board that Parks Canada had announced that all its facilities would remain closed until at least May 31, 2020, and that barricades had been erected to prevent visitors from having access to parking facilities.

Géraldine indicated that Parks Canada was considering scenarios for resuming operations but that no decisions had been made. She stressed the importance of creating safe working practices to ensure the safety of employees and the public.

# 7. Adjournment