

All Across the Landscape



2019: SAVE THE DATE

Grand-Pré National Historic Site opens (<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/ns/grandpre>): Friday, May 17

Landscape of Cultures Festival, Grand Pré: July 19–21

Congrès Mondial Acadian / Acadian World Congress 2019, Prince Edward Island and Southeast New Brunswick (<https://www.cma2019.ca>): August 10–24

¹ Welcome new directors:

- Yvon Fontaine joined the Board in August, 2018
- Emily Lutz joined the Board in February, 2019 following the resignation of Peter Muttart

Thank you Mayor Muttart for your service!



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MARCH 2019

STRATEGIC PLAN READY FOR PUBLICATION

Beyond UNESCO's guidelines, no documents help to guide the management of a World Heritage Site more than its management plan and strategic plan. Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. is pleased to announce that its planning over the past year has resulted in new vision and mission statements and a strategic plan for the next five years.

It is hoped the strategic plan, inspired by the renewed mission "To protect, preserve and promote the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site," will help bring focus to the most important ways the organization can succeed in four key areas: protecting the site, promoting experiences and discovery, collaborating and communicating with communities and stakeholders, and sustaining effective management of the site. Look for it on our website in the next few weeks.

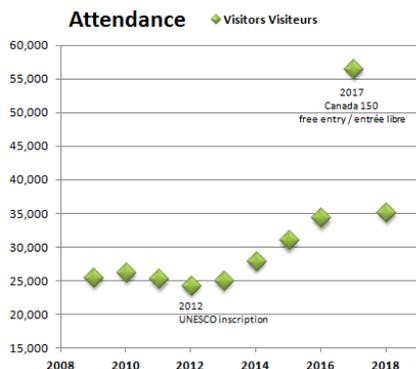
Those contributing to the plan were the Board directors in 2018: Allister Surette (chair), Beverly Palmeter (vice chair and treasurer), Géraldine Arsenault (secretary), Mark Bannerman, Gérald Boudreau, Anne Curry, Claude DeGrâce, Yvon Fontaine, Marilyn Perkins, and Peter Muttart¹; and the executive director, Steven Gaudet.

What next for the Site's secretariat? A new edition of the management plan follows soon. It is a more detailed plan that includes existing controls that protect the site, such as regulations for national historic sites and monuments, special places archaeological protection, agricultural marshland conservation, municipal planning and development requirements, and the environment. It will have as its foundation the management planning established by the contributions of the nomination committee leading up to inscription in 2012, and that of the Landscape of Grand Pré Society until 2015.

~ Allister Surette, Chair of the Board

Strategic Plan sets our direction and priorities

VISITOR NUMBERS RISING



Visitor numbers to the National Historic Site in the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site have been rising steadily since 2012 and reached 35,195 in 2018. (In 2017, attendance jumped to 56,448 when admission was free in celebration of Canada’s 150th birthday.)

Data source: *Parks Canada Agency*.

VIDEOS: CANADA’S UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Interested in a quick view of each of Canada’s 18 UNESCO World Heritage Sites? Check out two short videos on the website for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO at <https://en.ccunesco.ca/networks/world-heritage-sites>.

For more detailed information, see UNESCO’s World Heritage Centre at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/ca>

KIOSKS READY FOR HARVEST MOON TRAILWAY

As Nova Scotia’s newest destination trail – the others are the Celtic Shores Trail and the Rum Runners Trail – the Harvest Moon Trailway is already popular with walkers and cyclists.

“People were definitely waiting for this,” says Marcel Morin, Chair of the Grand Pré Trails Society and a member of the Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition Board. “When the Grand Pré to Wolfville trail was being built in 2017, the builders were inundated with people walking by, even though it was still a construction zone. According to the trail counts, about 600 people a day use it now, and Grand Pré to Wolfville has the highest usage of the entire trail.”

When the ground thaws this spring, individual kiosks will be installed at 23 sites along the trail near towns. Each kiosk will have a large map of the trail showing the entire Annapolis Valley from Grand Pré to Annapolis Royal, with optional interpretation panels depending on what each town wants to display. Morin, a skilled cartographer, created the map, which will include a “you are here” point at each kiosk.

“One of the most significant additions to the UNESCO World Heritage Site over the past year is the Harvest Moon Trailway,” says Steve Gaudet, executive director of Landscape of Grand Pré Inc. “It delivers an entirely new experience and perspective on the beauty of our cultural, agricultural and natural landscape and the National Historic Site. Born of the grass-roots efforts of the Grand Pré Trails Society, we have much to admire from the community spirit that led to this epic project. The five-kilometre hike between Wolfville and Grand Pré ranks as my favourite way to meet visitors while being active outdoors.”



Grand Pré to Wolfville trail, looking towards the Memorial Church: before and after construction (*Photos: Marcel Morin*)

THE KEY TO ASSESSING HERITAGE VALUES

What prompted Steve, our executive director, to attend a University of Oxford course last fall at his own expense?

“I’m excited about this role, and the course topic was high on the list of things I want to understand better so I can be a good heritage manager as well as a manager for a UNESCO site,” he says. The course, Heritage Values and the Assessment of Significance, ran in Oxford, England, from September 26 to 28, 2018.

Assessment of significance is a core concept in the management and development of historic properties and landscapes. The course introduced the process, showed what is involved in preparing assessments of significance (such as the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the Landscape of Grand Pré), and taught how to use such assessments to guide new developments and changes at heritage sites.

“I returned having new regard for the value of significance statements as a planning and management tool,” Steve says. “It reinforced with me the importance of the statement of significance that our community and stakeholders submitted to UNESCO to support the inscription of the Landscape of Grand Pré as a World Heritage Site.”

The course introduced Steve to others from the UK and beyond whose careers and responsibilities are similar to his own. “Beyond what was taught by the two heritage instructors, I got four days of exchange with my peers,” he says.



A UNESCO World Heritage Site of Acadian and Planter dykelands agricultural heritage nestled amongst the villages of Grand Pré, Hortonville, North Grand Pré, and Lower Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

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The Oxford class visited Bletchley Park, the once top-secret home of the World War II Codebreakers, to put their learning into practice.