



Project Update

What you may have noticed:

→ New logo: It illustrates the main parts of the outstanding universal value (the dykelands and the Acadian memorials).

→ New slogan: “One land. Many stories. A shared legacy.” speaks to the way this land brings together people from here and elsewhere to talk about and care for it.

→ Archaeologists Rob Ferguson (Parks Canada), Katie Cottreau-Robbins (Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, Province of Nova Scotia) and David Scott (Department of Earth Sciences, Dalhousie University) have been at work on the dykelands. In snow, rain or sun, they are out there drilling holes, scanning with radars and taking samples. They are looking for better evidence of the presence of Acadian dykes.

→ Historians: John Johnston and Ronnie-Gilles LeBlanc, both with Parks Canada, met with community members and gave presentations on their research. Information they collected from community members is included in the nomination proposal. For more information, visit the website: www.nominationgrandpre.ca under “An important place” section.

→ Municipal plan: Seamus McGreal (Planner) has been working with the Community Association to develop a plan for Grand Pré and area. That plan is the opportunity for residents to define their vision for their community. The outcome of that discussion, the plan itself, will be

important in the nomination proposal. For more information, visit the Kings County website at www.county.kings.ns.ca under the “community development” and “planning” sections.

What you may not have noticed:

→ Outstanding Universal Value working group: this is the group of specialists that worked on defining the proposed value and proposed boundary. The report that compiles their work is on the website at www.nominationgrandpre.ca under the “working committees” section.

→ Planning for the proposed World Heritage site: background information is being compiled to inform the discussions of the working group on the management of the proposed property.

What happens next:

→ Working group on the management of the proposed property: the working group is chaired by Chrystal Fuller (Manager of Planning, Kings County). Its work will begin this Spring.

→ Comparative analysis: Now that we have a proposed value, we need to understand what the competition is like. John Johnston will be coordinating the input of renowned experts from around the world who will be asked to review Grand Pré’s proposed value and compare it with other properties in terms of importance but also in terms of condition. It is the second major test to determine how universal Grand Pré really is!

→ Public presentations: John Johnston and Ronnie-Gilles LeBlanc are available to deliver presentations on the research they’ve carried out. For booking, contact Christophe Rivet .

Contact Information



Advisory Board co-chairs:

Erin Beaudin

Executive Director, Kings Community Economic Development Agency

erin@kingsced.ns.ca (902) 678-2298

Gérald C. Boudreau

Vice-President, Société Promotion Grand-Pré gcb@ns.sympatico.ca

Project Manager: Christophe Rivet

Parks Canada christophe.rivet@pc.gc.ca (902) 426-5918 cell (902) 229-5327



Nomination News

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You're Invited

OPEN HOUSE & PANEL DISCUSSION

Thursday, February 19th

Grand Pré National Historic Site

Open House:

Panel

2pm – 4 pm &

Discussion:

6 pm – 7:30 pm

7:30 pm – 9 pm

Be there for a chance to win exciting prizes!

ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE:

Come see the site boundary and discover what archaeologists, geographers, historians and others are proposing as the universal value for Grand Pré! This is the important information we were all waiting for that will help us plan for the future. Members of the Advisory Board will be available for questions.

ABOUT THE PANEL DISCUSSION:

Come meet, hear and talk with residents of Joggins and Lunenburg, Canada’s two World Heritage Sites in Nova Scotia. This is the opportunity to share concerns, hopes and questions with those who have experience in living with a World Heritage Site. The panel will be moderated by Councillor John Fuller.

NEWSLETTER
for

NOMINATION
GRAND PRÉ

The Nomination proposal for UNESCO

This is the first issue of the newsletter dedicated to the nomination of Grand Pré as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Why become a World Heritage Site?
Why are we doing this?

- It will help preserve our rich heritage;
- It’s a way to help preserve our rural way of life;
- It creates economic opportunities;
- It celebrates our common heritage and our role in protecting it.

This newsletter will give you a snapshot of what is going on. For more information, visit the project’s website www.nominationgrandpre.ca and be part of it by getting involved in the meetings and the working groups. This will only work with your involvement!

Christophe Rivet, Project Manager

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What is so special about Grand Pré?

It's outstanding universal value.

What is so special about Grand Pré and area? In fact, there are many things that are special. Many know about the park and the Acadian story. Many also know about the dykelands, the work of the Planters and how the Mi'kmaq came to fish and hunt. Then there's the highest recorded tides in the world. This is also the place where many have memories and family

stories that make this place special. But, what makes it special for the world? These are the elements that fit under the UNESCO criteria.

For more information, read the report on the Outstanding Universal Value at: www.nominationgrandpre.ca under the "working committees" section.

Grand Pré is an enduring and inspirational cultural landscape, an outstanding example of a distinctive community-based approach to farming in 17th and 18th-century North America and through its 20th-century memorials, an exceptional example of a place of tragedy that has become a symbol for all humanity of hope, perseverance and pride.

(iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared.

The intact dykeland at Grand Pré is an exceptional example of the distinctive Acadian tradition of turning wetlands into highly fertile farmland.

(v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.

The enduring settlement and land-use pattern on the Grand Pré dykeland and upland is an outstanding example of a distinctive 17th and 18th century community-based approach to agriculture in North America.

(vi) to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

Through its evocative memorials to a people who overcame a tragedy of forced migration, the Acadian Deportation, Grand Pré is a symbol of hope, perseverance, and pride for all humanity.

What is the proposed boundary?

This is the question everyone has been asking for months. It couldn't be answered until the outstanding universal value had been defined (see the previous section). Why? Because until we understand what is special about the place and reach a consensus on where the best evidence is located, it is impossible to talk about boundaries. These boundaries are the ones we will be working with to discuss management

issues. In coming months, we'll be talking about the condition of the evidence, the pressures on the site and the ways to preserve it.

For more information on how the boundary works and why these areas are proposed to be included, check the report on the Outstanding Universal at:

www.nominationgrandpre.ca under the "working committees" section.

