



Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated Annual Report 2019-2020



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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



Landscape of Grand Pré
inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 2012

Paysage de Grand-Pré
inscrit sur la Liste du
patrimoine mondial en 2012



Cover photo © Jamie Robertson



Message from the Chair

The past year has brought about many changes to the Corporation, including its leadership. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I'd like to thank both Allister Surette as Chair and Steven Gaudet as Executive Director for the leadership and guidance they gave during the formative phase of the Corporation. We were pleased to welcome Claude DeGrâce to the position of Executive Director in September 2019, a role in which he is helping the Board implement the Strategic Plan.

The Corporation has been busy over the past year continuing to build its governance structure, including the development of terms of reference for committees and the appointment of committee members. We now have four permanent committees up and running: Governance and Nominating, Technical Advisory, Education and Marketing, and Finance and Audit. These committees provide advice to the Board about the operation, monitoring, and reporting of the World Heritage Site. They are key to the success of the overall governance of the Landscape, helping to achieve our vision and mission. I would like to thank the volunteer committee members for their significant contribution.

The Board has revised existing policies (Code of Conduct and Communication) and developed new policies and procedures to guide the work of the Corporation, including those relating to Financial Management and Procurement, Travel and Expenses, and Executive Director accountability. These policies can be found on the Corporation's website. We are in the process of developing a volunteer policy as well as a fund development policy.

Our website, www.landscapeofgrandpre.ca, has been a powerful tool, enabling us to engage and communicate with the vast communities that the Landscape encompasses. Be sure to visit it often to stay up to date with information including the Corporation's Strategic Plan, minutes of Board of Directors meetings, approved policies, and newsletters. In an effort to provide additional oversight of the financial resources managed by the Corporation, we will also be posting the Corporation's audited financial statements on our website.

As Chair of the Board, I am very pleased with the contribution of the directors, who give of their time to support the work of the Corporation. With the help of our new Executive Director, we are confident that notwithstanding the global pandemic, we will be able to continue making progress on the implementation of the Corporation's Strategic Plan.

Our vision and mission are coming to life as our communities and partners work collaboratively and proudly to protect and champion the living cultural and agricultural landscape of Grand Pré by protecting, preserving and promoting the Landscape.

—Beverly Palmeter



Background

The Landscape of Grand Pré became Canada's 16th World Heritage Site, inscribed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on June 30th, 2012. The 13-square-kilometre site is located on the Bay of Fundy's Minas Basin in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley, which is part of the Mi'kmaw people's unceded homeland of Mi'kma'ki. UNESCO World Heritage Sites are recognized for their "Outstanding Universal Value" for humanity as a whole, 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.

For the Landscape of Grand Pré, the elements of Outstanding Universal Value were identified under two criteria:

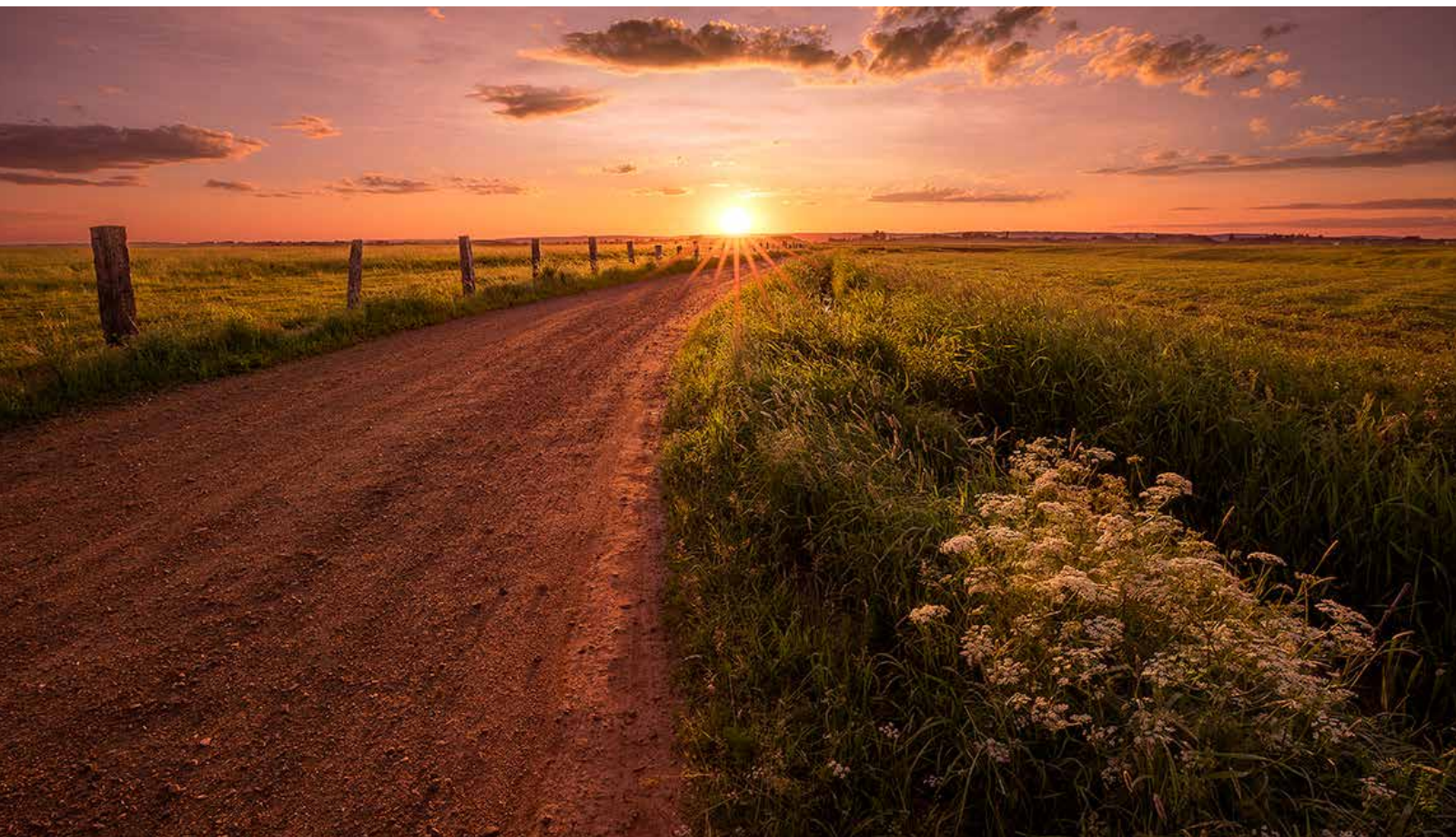
Criterion (v) "An outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change":

The 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) "Directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance":

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'kmaw 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.

John Robichaud



Mission and Vision

Landscape of Grand Pré Incorporated was created in 2016 under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act. The purpose of the Corporation is to

- Facilitate a coordinated management approach among those who have jurisdiction over the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site (“Site”) to protect, preserve, and promote the Site;
- Instill a strong sense of shared community pride and stewardship in the protection, preservation, and promotion of the Site; and
- Provide strategic direction for the management and conservation of the archaeological heritage and the Outstanding Universal Value of the Site.

Membership

The eight member organizations are composed of the following:

Class A Voting Member Organizations

1. Glooscap First Nation
2. Grand Pré and Area Community Association
3. Grand Pre Marsh Body
4. Municipality of the County of Kings
5. Parks Canada Agency
6. Société Nationale de l’Acadie
7. Société Promotion Grand-Pré

Class B Non-Voting Member Organizations

8. Province of Nova Scotia represented by the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage

VISION

Our communities and partners work collaboratively and proudly to protect and champion the living cultural and agricultural landscape of Grand Pré for the world to appreciate.

MISSION

To protect, preserve and promote the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Jamie Robertson

Board of Directors and committees

The Board of Directors is the core governance body of the Corporation. It meets regularly throughout the year and is made up of directors nominated by the member organizations and by the Board. The nominated directors are elected by the member organizations.

The 2019/2020 Board consisted of ten directors (officer positions as noted):

Géraldine Arsenault, Secretary
Mark Bannerman
Gérald Boudreau, Vice Chair
Anne Currie
Yvon Fontaine
Emily Lutz, Treasurer
Andrew Murphy
Beverly Palmetter, Chair
Marilyn Perkins
Ernest Thibodeau



The Board established the Governance and Nominating Committee in 2018 and has more recently created three additional permanent committees. Committee membership:

- a) **Governance and Nominating Committee**
(Gérald Boudreau – Chair, Anne Curry and Beverly Palmetter)
- b) **Technical Advisory Committee**
(Anne Curry – Chair, Tony Bowran, Catherine Cottreau-Robins, Madelyn LeMay and David Smith)
- c) **Education and Marketing Committee**
(Marilyn Perkins – Chair, Juliana Barnard, Amy MacDonald and Jean-Pierre MacLaughlin)
- d) **Finance and Audit Committee**
(Andrew Murphy – Chair, Mark Bannerman and Yvon Fontaine)

Strategic priorities

The Strategic Plan, approved in 2018, outlines the following strategic priorities:

- **Strategic Priority 1:** Protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site
- **Strategic Priority 2:** Collaborating to Promote Experience and Discovery
- **Strategic Priority 3:** Collaborating and Communicating with Communities, Members and Stakeholders
- **Strategic Priority 4:** Sustaining Effective Management of the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site

The Executive Director has prepared an operational plan that outlines how the strategic priorities of the Corporation will be implemented with the support of committees and stakeholders.



Statement of financial activity
(from the audited financial statements)

LANDSCAPE OF GRAND PRÉ INCORPORATED YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2020		
	2020	2019
Revenues		
Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site Funding Trust	\$177,500	\$127,500
Grant from the Municipality of the County of Kings	25,000	25,000
	<u>202,500</u>	<u>152,500</u>
Expenditures		
Amortization	23,977	23,977
Board expenses	9,817	12,935
Communication and marketing	19,695	35,623
General operating expenses	23,915	24,559
Staff expenses	95,019	99,547
Support services	15,894	17,314
	<u>188,317</u>	<u>213,955</u>
	<u>14,183</u>	<u>(61,455)</u>
Other revenues (expenditures)		
Contributed assets from Landscape of Grand Pré Society	847	—
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 15,030</u>	<u>\$ (61,455)</u>



Outlook for the future – Executive Director

As I indicated in our February 2020 newsletter, from my perspective there are two significant challenges facing the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site. The first is the protection of the dykelands from the rising sea levels. The second is the presentation of the overall significance of the World Heritage Site.

We are fortunate that the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture (NSDA) has initiated the Nova Scotia Dykeland System Upgrades Project, which is funded in part by the Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund. The purpose of the project is to upgrade select marshlands (dyke and aboteau structures) in the province to prepare for the effects of climate change. The Grand Pré dykelands are being considered for repair or restoration through this project. We are pleased that the NSDA will be engaging the Landscape of Grand Pré Corporation and other local area stakeholders regarding all phases of implementation of this project over the next few years.

As for the presentation of the overall significance of the Landscape of Grand Pré, the Corporation is exploring options for additional development at the View Park where the broad story of the Landscape could be presented, thereby

contributing to the achievement of the Corporation's vision and mission. The Board of Directors has also identified the need for an improved trail linking the Harvest Moon Trailway, the National Historic Site, and the View Park.

The Corporation is also considering launching an important fund development campaign to help sustain the management of the Landscape of Grand Pré. We see this as an opportunity to implement a compelling project or initiatives that would enhance the visibility of the Landscape of Grand Pré and provide opportunities for visitors to discover the rich cultural and agricultural heritage for which the Site was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

If you have any comments or questions regarding this annual report, please contact us:



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