

Coming Up...

What Does Grand Pré Mean to You?



Nomination Grand Pré is in the making of launching a new section on their website called "What Does Grand Pré Mean to You?" It is dedicated to the people who want their stories of Grand Pré heard. Its purpose is to give anyone an opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings about Grand Pré with the rest of the world. This will provide an opportunity to learn more about how people have cared and continue to care for this land.

Individual testimonials that are received from online submissions as well as various events that Nomination Grand Pré attends will be posted on our website. Anyone can offer a testimonial; when their comments have been reviewed, they will be submitted to the website at www.nominationgrandpre.ca. If you do not have access to a computer, you may also submit your testimonial to us by mail at Nomination Grand Pré Re: Website Testimonials 35 Webster Street Kentville, NS B4N 1H4.

Key Contact Information

Advisory Board Co-chairs:

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Grand Pré Public Archaeology Experience



From July 12-23 Saint Mary's University and Parks Canada celebrates the 10th year anniversary of the Archaeological Field School research at the Grand Pré National Historic Site. There will be an opportunity for the public to take part in the archaeology dig and find out what history lays beneath the soil in Grand Pré. For more information about the Public Archaeology Dig visit: <http://www.nominationgrandpre.com> under the Events section or call Victor Tétrault at 542-1952.

Acadian Days Festival July 2010



The 2010 Acadian Days are scheduled for July 23-25, 28 and August 15. Nomination Grand Pré will be attending the annual Acadian Days Festival at Grand Pré National Historic Site on July 25 with an information booth. Stop by and get a frisbee, lapel pin and postcard. Testimonials about "What Grand Pré means to you?" will be taped at this event.



Nomination News

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Farewell: Communications Coordinator



As all good things must come to an end so must my term as Communications Coordinator for Nomination Grand Pré. Over the past year the events that you have enjoyed in your community and the last few issues of Nomination News that you have read, have been part of my small contribution to a big project. I enjoyed working for such a worthwhile project alongside some wonderful people who are all working so hard to celebrate and protect the beautiful land of Grand Pré; a place you are lucky to call home. I truly believe that Nomination Grand Pré will be a successful precursor for a World Heritage Designation. I will miss working on Nomination Grand Pré and will cherish my short time I had to spend on this project. Although my next position will not take me far away, I will say farewell for now and best wishes to the project and all the stakeholders involved. I will be watching from next door as the project approaches the final months of its target date for submission. My time has been both educational and exciting and I look forward to seeing the final outcome; something the community and area of Grand Pré should all be proud of.

Sincerest Regards, Amelia Awalt

Project Updates

There is much to do at this time for Nomination Grand Pré. The management plan is progressing well and a new draft should be ready soon.

A draft of the Nomination Proposal will be ready to submit to the Advisory Board at the next Advisory Board meeting on July 8, 2010.

Thanks to Nomination Grand Pré's Project Manager Christophe Rivet, who has been working tirelessly at writing the dossier, and to the rest of the team who continue to be dedicated to the project and its target submission date in February 2011. See page two for a progress chart from the Project Manager.

Project Manager's Progress Report

Progress on the Nomination Proposal

We are still aiming to submit a nomination proposal next February, which brings us now in the first stages of review of a draft. The draft includes all the chapters required in the nomination proposal, meaning a statement about the proposed outstanding universal value, a description of the legislation and policies that protect it, a description of the proposed site's integrity and authenticity, a management plan, an explanation of how the site is going to be managed, and a description of how the condition of the site will be monitored.

The statement of outstanding universal value that was approved in 2009 is being modified to respond to UNESCO's expectations of clearly articulating why the landscape Grand Pré and area is of universal value. The proposal is still about the dykelands, the landscape, the memorials, and agriculture but the actual words in the statement will change. It is a challenging exercise because the landscape of Grand Pré and area is compared to sites around the world and over thousands of years of cultural history. A tall order indeed, but one that we feel confident can be done.

The management aspect is progressing well. As stated before, the incredible stewardship of the people of Grand Pré and area has been instrumental in protecting the nominated site. This is something that is recognized in the proposal and is central to the future of the site. The management plan explains how the municipal, provincial, and federal governments that already have authority for activities in the area will work together with residents and key stakeholders to protect the outstanding universal value. We envision that to secure that collaboration and the fundamental role of the residents and stakeholders in managing the site, a governance board needs to be set up to advise those departments and ensure the effective stewardship of the nominated site.

The information included in the draft is the most accurate we can provide as of June 2010, since there are numerous aspects of management that are still not complete. We will be modifying the information in future drafts as those aspects become clearer.

A draft will be reviewed by the Advisory Board at its meeting on July 8th. Following that discussion, a draft will be sent to the Canadian Delegation to the World Heritage Committee for their review as they are actually the ones officially submitting the proposal to UNESCO. If they are satisfied with the progress made, a draft is then sent to UNESCO in September for voluntary review. This allows us to get feedback about the quality of the proposal. Based on that feedback we will be able to assess whether we are ready to formally submit in February of next year.

Nomination Grand Pré Highlights the Importance of Protecting Agriculture and Agricultural Land

The Agricultural Land Review Committee requested input in May from the public on the challenges and opportunities regarding the protection of agricultural land. Nomination Grand Pré provided a statement regarding the aims of the nomination proposal to UNESCO, the values associated with agriculture, and the strategies that were essential for the protection of the dykelands at Grand Pré. The statement was extremely well received by the Committee and further thoughts were asked to Nomination Grand Pré about the need to invest in the protection of the dykes and the importance of supporting the industry in Grand Pré and area. You can read Nomination Grand Pré's letter to the Agricultural Land Review Committee at www.nominationgrandpre.ca under 'Recent News'.

In addition to that statement, Nomination Grand Pré has sent a statement to the committee working on the Province of Nova Scotia's Coastal Strategy. That statement highlights the importance of recognizing cultural, historic, and economic value of dykelands and of the agricultural communities living along the coast. In addition, we are highlighting the importance of considering the protection of archaeological heritage, since many of the settlements from the Mi'kmaq to the later European settlers are often found along the coast. Both these aspects are important to Grand Pré and area in the context of the nomination proposal. We are inviting the committee to work with communities and invest the resources necessary to ensure that these goals are achieved. You can read Nomination Grand Pré's letter to the Coastal Strategy coordinator at www.nominationgrandpre.ca under 'Recent News'.

Recap of Events Attended...

World Heritage Day Celebrating Agricultural Heritage



Courtesy of Jane Cayford

International Experts Visit Grand Pré

Experts from across Europe and Canada came to visit Grand Pré and local area for the World Heritage Day events and participated in a day-long symposium at Acadia University, April 17, 2010.



In addition to the World Heritage Day events, the experts spent some time with Christophe Rivet, Project Manager of Nomination Grand Pré and provided valuable feedback on the progress of Nomination Grand Pré. Having the opportunity to share their insight about World Heritage in other countries helped to reinforce that Nomination Grand Pré is on the right path for the submission of the dossier. Furthermore, the experts were able to see for themselves what makes Grand Pré so special and worth sharing with the rest of the world.



The Community of Grand Pré Celebrates

April 18, 2010, marked the community celebration of World Heritage Day with a specific focus on Agricultural Heritage. Various media attended the event including Global TV, CBC Radio Canada from the French press, CTV, and Eastlink.



Those who attended enjoyed delicious samples of local food and were intrigued by the historical exhibits of heritage farms around the province. Local farmers and Marsh Body representatives Charlie Curry and Robert Palmetier gave a talk about the life of farming in Grand Pré over the past generations. For footage from the community celebration visit our website at the following link <http://www.nominationgrandpre.ca/news-events.html> and click on: CTV World Heritage Day Coverage.



Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the Arrival of the New England Planter's

Acadia University's Planter Studies Committee Conference was held June 17-20, 2010 at Acadia. Nomination Grand Pré participated at this event with a display booth featuring project information. Participants could leave a personal testimonials on "What Grand Pré means to you?" These thoughts will be posted on the website in the coming weeks. In addition, the conference included a lecture on the Nomination Grand Pré UNESCO Bid. Project Manager Christophe Rivet provided an overview of the process and presenters Katie Cottreau Robins (Nova Scotia Museum and Dalhousie University) and Ronnie-Gilles Leblanc (Parks Canada) highlighted the research accomplished to date by the project.

