



\$1.3 million Invested to Support Grand Pré UNESCO Bid

Grand Pré, Nova Scotia, February 16, 2009 - Three levels of government are coming together to support the project to designate Grand Pré as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Advisory Board of Nomination Grand Pré today received over \$1.3 in funding and in-kind support from the Government of Canada, the Province Nova Scotia and the Municipality of the County of Kings.

The Honourable Gerald Comeau, Senator, on behalf of the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, and the Honourable Keith Ashfield, Minister of State, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, announced \$211,348 in ACOA financial support for this project. Parks Canada will provide over \$500,000 in project management and technical support.

“The contribution of the expertise of Parks Canada and the financial assistance of ACOA will provide the necessary resources for this important project to proceed,” said Senator Comeau. “The Government of Canada is proud to support the work of residents and Acadian communities towards this nomination.”

The Province of Nova Scotia, through the Departments of Economic and Rural Development, and Tourism Culture and Heritage, have committed \$211,348 for this project. The Office of Acadian Affairs and Department of Tourism Culture and Heritage are contributing \$71,000 in services.

“This project will create a trilogy of World Heritage Sites in Nova Scotia as it joins Lunenburg and Joggins making an important statement about the outstanding universal value of these sites in Nova Scotia,” said the Honourable Rodney MacDonald, Premier of Nova Scotia.

The Municipality of Kings County will be contributing \$23,000 towards in-kind planning services. Other contributors of services include \$117,000 from Kings Community Economic Development Agency and \$54,000 from Société Promotion Grand-Pré.

“Grand Pré’s recognition as a World Heritage Site will better position the County of Kings, and indeed the Annapolis Valley region, as a significant heritage tourism destination,” said Councillor John Fuller.

“It is exciting when three levels of government, an advisory board representing 12 different organizations and the communities of Grand Pré , Hortonville and North Grand Pré come together to work collaboratively on a project of such significance to our area,” said Erin Beaudin, Advisory Board Co-chair and Executive Director, Kings Community Economic Development Agency.

“Grand Pré and surrounding areas are really world-class treasures to be admired. Treasures are meant to be preserved because of their intrinsic value, and this UNESCO nomination project is no different. We are truly grateful for the generous support of our funding partners and of the communities who share this legacy,” added Dr. Gérald C. Boudreau, Advisory Board Co-chair and Vice-President, Société Promotion Grand-Pré.

For more information:

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

For technical details of the submission contact:

Project Manager: Christophe Rivet, Parks Canada christophe.rivet@pc.gc.ca
(902) 426-5918 cell (902) 229-5327