



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES ON CAPE BRETON ISLAND
LIEUX HISTORIQUES NATIONAUX DU CAP-BRETON

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Protecting the Past

On the afternoon of May 13, fire management specialists from Parks Canada with support from the Department of Natural Resources and the Louisbourg Volunteer Fire Department conducted a prescribed burn (PB) along the North Shore.



Fire behavior specialists monitored weather conditions on the days leading up to the burn and throughout the fire event. The safety of people, facilities, and surrounding lands was the primary concern. Fire fighting crews from La Maurice, Banff, Pukaskwa, Kejimikujik, CBH and FOL conducted the burn. The operation was supported by the NS Dept. of Transportation-Communications Division, EHS, Cape Breton Regional Police and Parks Canada staff. Observers from the Department of Natural Resources, CBRM Fire Service, the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UINR) monitored the activities.

Prescribed fire is the preferred option to control vegetation growth and prevent it from disturbing underground artifacts. Failure to manage or control vegetation would result in continued impacts to cultural resources. This marks the first time prescribed fire has been used as a tool to preserve commemorative integrity within Parks Canada. The restoration of the North Shore landscape has opened up view planes to the Fortress and will enhance visitor experience.



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

Like all Parks Canada prescribed fires, this burn underwent an extensive planning process and environmental assessment prior to implementation.

Monitoring plots have been established within the proposed burn area. The goal of the monitoring program will be to measure the degree to which objectives of the prescribed burn have been met and help to determine a fire maintenance cycle.

Many thanks to staff who put in a long but successful day on the PB and to those who altered their plans and schedules to accommodate the activities.

Lee Anne Reeves

News from AGB

The visitor season officially began on May 1st with the first of the Heritage Presenters returning to work.

Future Flyers

Linda Watson and Madeline Harvey travelled to National Defence's 'Greenwood' base just outside Kingston, NS for the "Future Flyers Meet the Snowbirds" May 20th event day. The day included an air show with the Snowbirds and a CF18 jet. AGBNHSC was invited to offer kite-making and upwards of 200 children, youth and adults made and decorated sled kites and tetrahedral kites. The event organizers estimated that 7500 people passed through the gates.

HSMBC Ceremony

On Friday, May 22nd, under sunny skies the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque unveiling ceremony commemorating "The Building of the

Canso Causeway" took place near Canso Canal. The Official Party included Senator Michael L. MacDonald representing the Honourable Jim Prentice, Canada's Environment Minister and Minister Responsible for Parks Canada; Leonard Cusack, Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada; Bob MacEachern, Chair, Canso Causeway Anniversary Society; Dr. Jim St. Clair, Historian and Author; and Chip Bird representing Parks Canada. Ginette Savoie also attended courtesy of CBHNP to read the plaque text in French following the unveiling. There was a great turnout. The plaque will be installed soon near the park/gazebo area by the canal on a rock from Cape Porcupine.



QVE Training

Prevention training is underway and many staff from AGB and our satellite sites have participated already.

Silver Dart Centennial Celebrations

The 2009 Silver Dart Centennial Celebrations continue with 'Youth in Aviation Week' June 14-21. The week includes many wonderful experiences including an air show featuring the

Snowbirds and many other aircraft, a huge fireworks display, a George Canyon/Tara Oram concert, Star Parties with the Royal Astronomical Society every night, the CBU Star Lab, the CF18 cockpit will be back, paper airplane maker & Guinness Book of World Records holder Ken Blackburn and more. Visit www.flightofthesilverdart.ca for the schedule.

Marconi/St. Peters Canal/Canso NHSCs

All staff are ready for the opening of these sites on Monday, June 1st.

This year the staff at Marconi have been hired under the Young Canada Works program as have the staff at St. Peters Canal.

This is the first year for guided tours with Heritage Presenters at St. Peters Canal.

Marconi and Canso visitor seasons are from June 1st to September 15th and the Heritage Presenters will be at St. Peters Canal from June 1st to August 31st.

NS Political Leadership Debate

Don't forget to tune in to the second Nova Scotia Provincial Leadership Debate will be broadcast 'live' from Alexander Graham Bell, NHSC on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 7:00 pm on CBC Television.

Employee Survey – 2009

Parks Canada will be conducting a survey during the summer of 2009. The last Public Service Employee Survey was done in 2008 but Parks declined to participate due to the timing of the survey – a large portion of our workforce would be off-strength.

Statistics Canada will be administering this survey and it will be done electronically where possible.

Donna MacNeil is coordinating this for the field unit and any questions can be directed to her.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Hear Ye! Hear Ye!, please contact Donna MacNeil at donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca or telephone 733-3551.