



*“Investing in Community
Visions”*

*Annual Report to the
Community*

Aspotogan Heritage Trust

2008-2009

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Executive Summary

The Annual Report is a brief overview of the work of the Aspotogan Heritage Trust during the past fiscal year. It serves as an update to the community we serve, and contains details regarding the activities of the organization during 2008-2009.

Organizational Overview

The Aspotogan Heritage Trust is located on 10 Pte. Richard Green Lane, Hubbards, Nova Scotia. As the receiving agency for the funds and assets transferred from the Federal Government following the closure of CFS Mill Cove, the AHT is committed to supporting the region effected by the loss of the base. In operation since 1994, the AHT continues to be a lead organization in community economic development in the area defined within the mandate.

The activities of the Society are to be carried on, in general, in or around the Aspotogan Peninsula, Nova Scotia, Canada. The Aspotogan Region is defined as that area lying west of the Still Water Brook in Black Point, east of the East River in Chester Municipality, south of Highway 103 and north of the waters of St. Margaret's and Mahone Bays, containing the communities of Queensland, Hubbards, Fox Point, Mill Cove, Birchy Head, The Lodge, Northwest Cove, Coleman's Cove, Southwest Cove, Aspotogan, Bayswater, Blandford, Deep Cove, East River and Simms Settlement.

Historical Background

The Aspotogan Heritage Trust was created following the decision of the Government of Canada to close Canadian Forces Station Mill Cove in 1994. Formed as a limited-membership, non-profit society by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency in October 1994, the Trust was established to administer a \$2 million federal adjustment fund to respond to the social and economic consequences arising from the base closure.

One of the first challenges faced by the Trust was a decision by federal staff that CFS Mill Cove had significant market value and should be sold to the highest bidder. This differed entirely from the circumstances in other communities where military installations were being turned over to local agencies to manage and re-develop. After months of critical analysis of the government's proposal and direct appeals to the Minister of National Defence and the Prime Minister's Office, agreement was reached to gift CFS Mill Cove to the Trust.

With property and financial issues resolved, the Trust commenced the task of rehabilitating CFS Mill Cove. The most pressing need was replacement of the water source and treatment system for the

existing water utility. The next priority was to renovate and repopulate the housing complex and integrate Mill Cove Park with the surrounding community of Mill Cove by removing security fencing and enhancing the landscape.

One of the Trust's biggest successes at Mill Cove Park came in 1996 when it established Nova Scotia's first dedicated sound stage and film production centre. From 1996 to 2001 more than \$40 million of film production occurred at Mill Cove Park. Two national television series, two feature films and two movies of the week were produced in the region featuring recognizable actors such as Farrah Fawcett, Kirsten Dunst, Jean Stapleton, Kevin Spacey and Vanessa Redgrave.

In 1999, the Trust sought and secured the location for the new Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School and prepared plans for development of a new residential sub-division surrounding the new school.

Between 2000 and 2001, the Board of Directors decided to curtail any further development of Mill Cove Park in favour of divesting the property and establishing a perpetual community endowment with the proceeds.

In order to prepare the property for sale, the Trust negotiated the transfer of water, sewer and road systems to the Municipality of Chester and worked with the Lunenburg County District Planning Commission to establish zoning and land use bylaws to restrict development of the Park in future. The zoning also sought to preserve the park-like atmosphere of the property and protect its natural water courses.

After seven years of ownership, the Aspotogan Heritage Trust moved to put the former Canadian Forces Station Mill Cove on the market. The sale was completed in the spring of 2003, when a private development company from Halifax purchased the property. The purchase included all sixty-five residences, four commercial buildings and the Gatehouse. The Trust also granted Mill Cove Developments Limited a two year option to acquire the 350 remaining acres at the Park as part of the transaction.

Although Mill Cove Developments did not exercise the option, the 350 acres of remaining lands at the former base were sold in the fall of 2006. Aspotogan Development Limited purchased the land and revisited the original plans of the Trust to create a golf course residential community on the property. Work continues on this project.

The proceeds from the sale of Mill Cove Park were combined with the Trust's other assets to create a \$5 million endowment from which community grants will be funded in perpetuity.

To Our Community

October 2009

Dear friends, colleagues and community members

2008-2009 marks another transition phase for the Aspotogan Heritage Trust. After many years of development and many months of renovation, March 31, 2009 brought with it our move to 10 Pte. Richard Green Lane, which is to be the permanent home of the Trust. Not only is the location a perfect spot from which to serve the community, but it is equally as fitting that we find a home in a location where the community honours a young military man.

The Trust is very excited about what we can accomplish by owning this building and are eager to engage the community in making full use of the facilities and resources offered. This opportunity would not be possible without the vision, support and governance of the Board, and the community it serves. We are fortunate that so many people in this community are willing to give of their time and talents to help move the region forward.

The upcoming year will see the beginning of a broader community visioning and sustainability project, in partnership with Acadia Centre for Social & Business Entrepreneurship (ACSBE). As one of our newer community partners, ACSBE will bring fresh eyes to the visioning process and it is our hope that the community will be engaged in the development of long-term planning for the region.

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May, the AHT welcomed David Bond as a new director. At that time, we also said good-bye to Tom Donnahee after six years of directorship with us. His expertise and contributions in all things “property” will be missed. Since the AGM, the board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Larry Stevens following his move out of the area. Tom and Larry both contributed greatly to the board during their tenures and we are grateful to their time with us.

On behalf of the Board, we would like to thank the community for supporting the Trust over the past year and we look forward to working with you to shape the future of the region together.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ellen Clancey
Chair, Aspotogan Heritage Trust*

*Kathryn Gamache
Executive Director*

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Aspotogan Heritage Trust is to use its funds and resources to encourage and support the social, cultural, educational, environmental and economic development of the region it serves.

VALUES

1. We embrace and support growth and change that is respectful of our region's history and culture and that preserves or enhances individual connectivity to one another and provides for broad benefits to the community.
2. We value the land, waters and creatures and seek to protect these assets for the future enjoyment of all by influencing and encouraging management practices that seek to balance the preservation of these assets with the many demands placed on them.
3. We believe in being accountable and value critical commentary and compliments alike.
4. The Trust will treat all with whom it deals or employs without prejudice, regardless of sex, age, colour, creed, ethnicity, physical ability, sexual orientation or religious affiliation.

PRINCIPLES

The Board of the Aspotogan Heritage Trust is guided by a set of five principles that are fundamental to its purpose:

1. The Board of the Trust is charged with providing governance and stewardship. The Board directs the activity of the organization by providing clear and specific policies to guide staff and is responsible for the safekeeping and growth of the assets of the organization to ensure the continued pursuit of its mission.
2. The Board subscribes to The Natural Step's principles of environmental stewardship.

3. The Board subscribes to the Triple Bottom Line and Balanced Score Card financial accounting and audit practices.

4. The Board will conduct its business in such a manner as to be transparent to the community it serves. The organization exists for the good of the community it serves but is not directly accountable to it. However, while reserving its independence, the Board accepts the responsibility to demonstrate that it is in harmony with the community and its values. It will undertake programs of research and communication and employ other methods to ensure that its activities reflect and are seen to reflect the welfare of the community.

5. The Board is more interested in outcomes than in activity. The organization will define objectives and measure performance against pre-established criteria. It will not engage in activity for its own sake but for its contribution to advancing the mission of the organization. The Trust is a marketing and facilitating organization that sees itself as a good partner, opportunity identifier and catalyst for development. It is interested in preserving and enhancing the quality of life of the community and not simply stimulating economic activity.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Board of Directors

Mary Ellen Clancey, Chair
Floyd Shatford, Vice-Chair
Gayle Shanks, Treasurer
Raina Clancey, Secretary

David Bond, Director
Jean Coleman, Director
Mark Dyer, Director
Judy Hopkins, Director
Wilma Raaymakers, Director
Pat Routhier, Director
Leslie Taylor, Director

Committee Membership

Finance Committee:

Gayle Shanks, Committee Chair
David Bond
Raina Clancey
Mark Dyer

Property Development Committee:

Floyd Shatford, Committee Chair
David Bond
Jean Coleman
Wilma Raaymakers
Pat Routhier

Community Development Committee:

Judy Hopkins, Committee Chair
Mary Ellen Clancey
Jean Coleman
Leslie Taylor

Visioning Committee:

Mary Ellen Clancey, Committee Chair
Mark Dyer
Wilma Raaymakers
Leslie Taylor

Staffing

Kathryn Gamache, Executive Director

Email: connect@aspotogan.org

Suzanne Brown, Community Coordinator

Email: sbrown@aspotogan.org

Samantha Wilson, Board Secretary/Executive Assistant

Email: swilson@aspotogan.org

Lori Dale, Communications/PR

Email: lori_dale@hotmail.com

Contact Information

Phone (902) 857-1133

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Hubbards, Nova Scotia
B0J 1T0*

*Location: 10 Pte Richard Green Lane
Hubbards, Nova Scotia
(corner of Hwy 3 and route 329)*

Email: connect@aspotogan.org

Website: www.aspotogan.org

Community Grants and Initiatives 2008 - 2009

 1st Fox Point Girl Guides	\$450
Supported the camping trip	
 2 Bays 4H Club	\$500
Supported camp/workshop registration for members	
 3rd Hubbards Scouts	\$1000
Supported the Troops trip to the 2009 Scotia Jamboree, Cape Breton	
 3rd Hubbards Beavers/Cubs	\$500
Supported the winter camp	
 ACES Home and School	\$500
Supported the Home and School's annual Spring Fling	
 ACSBE (Acadia Centre for Social & Business Entrepreneurship) /Job Depot	\$500
Assisted with the development of a local business survey	
 All Saints Heritage Cemetery	\$300
Supported third phase of repairs and restoration of the heritage cemetery	



Aspotogan Arts & Crafts

\$1500

Assisted with the production of a promotional calendar to commemorate the 10th Anniversary



Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School

\$2000

Supported the purchase of new playground equipment



Aspotogan Heritage Trust Bursary Award

\$1000

Granted a \$500 Bursary to a student chosen from both area high schools



Aspotogan Recreation Association

\$500

Supported the distribution of the organization's newsletter



Blandford & Area Historical Society

\$160

Contributed to the heritage craft program



Blandford Heritage Days

\$500

Supported the annual community event



Blandford Seaside

\$500

Contributed towards a bus trip to the Seniors Expo event in Halifax



Bluenose Coast Association

\$2500

Contributed to the development of marketing brochure for the region



Chester Municipal Volunteer Firefighters Dinner **\$500**

Support the dinner held to honour the Volunteer Firefighters in the Municipality of Chester



Church Memorial Park **\$1000**

Contributed towards improvements to the arena’s equipment



Community Wheels **\$10,000**

Provided continued support for the community-based transportation service.



East River Village Hall **\$1000**

Supported the repairs to the Village Hall



District #1 Fire Rescue – Prize Bingo **\$100**

Supported the annual fundraising event



Girls Night Out **\$150**

Supported the annual event with a contribution to the door prize



Harvest Youth Outdoor Concert **\$250**

Provided assistance to host a youth-event at Mill Cove Park



Hubbards & Area Winter Carnival

\$500

Supported the 15th Annual Winter Carnival



Hubbards & Area Food Bank/ Lions Club

\$500

Supported the Christmas food baskets



Hubbards & Area Lions Club

\$1500

Supported the repairs and renovations to the Lions Club



Junior Achievement

\$400

Supported the 'Economics of Staying in School' program



Lighthouse Food Bank

\$500

Support for work of the local food bank



Mill Cove Recreational Association

\$500

Supported the youth T-ball and Baseball program at the Mill Cove Park sports field



Ocean Swells Community Association

\$7000

Supported the roof renovation at the Community Centre



Ocean View Children Centre

\$10,000

Supported a subsidy program which provides child care to local families



P.R.O Kids

\$2000

Supported the ongoing work of the organization to provide assistance to local youth who wish to participate in recreational activities



Recycling Video - District of Chester

\$5000

Supported the development of a video to increase awareness and proper recycling practises in the District of Chester



Ride the Lobster Unicycle Relay Race

\$5000

Supported the regional events and marketing for this international event



Route Enhancement Committee Aspotogan Peninsula (RECAP)

\$3000

Supported the installation of bike racks at various locations around the Aspotogan Peninsula



Shatford Memorial Home and School Group

\$500

Support of the Home and School's annual Auction/Fun Fair event



Through the Years Day Care

\$10,000

Supported a subsidy program, which provides childcare to local families



Through the Years Day Care and Community Centre **\$500**

Supported the organization's annual 'Fun Fair'



Western HRM Community Learning Network **\$820**

Provided assistance for transportation and childcare costs for adults attending upgrading classes



World Tuna Flat Race **\$500**

Supported the annual World Tuna Flat Races

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2009

ASSETS	2009	*2008
Cash/receivables	\$ 60,686	\$ 272,564
Investment	3,098,932	3,944,403
Mortgage receivables	660,591	669,854
Capital Assets	548,565	83,552
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,368,774	\$ 4,970,373
LIABILITES		
Accounts payable/accrued liabilities	397,602	253,811
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ <u>397,602</u>	\$ <u>253,811</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted asset	872,240	4,716,562
**Restricted assets	3,098,932	-----
NET ASSETS	\$ 4,716,562	\$ 4,960,702
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 4,970.373	\$ 5,205,500

*2008 Financials are reporting investments at fair market value

** Restricted by way of a deed of trust, under the Aspotogan Preservation Trust (APT), which prevents the encroachment of capital that is greater than 15% of the then current fair market value of the Trust.

