

**ASPOTOGAN HERITAGE TRUST
SOCIETY
1994 - 2004**

10 Years of Serving Our Community



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Note from the Chair, Mary Ellen Clancey

October 2004



Just as the Mill Cove Park Agency was finding its new direction as the Aspotogan Heritage Trust, I was invited to become a director. I think I had some idea that I was there to protect the newly built Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School (A.C.E.S.) from the threat of inappropriate development within the remaining parklands. Fortunately for me, community involvement has a funny way of widening our viewpoint to see the whole forest rather than our own favourite tree and we grow into a wider sense of community.

We have more challenges as a community than most, strung out as we are along the coastal highways and divided between two municipalities at our core. “Pumpkinfest” is a good sign that our community embraces the challenges. Our congratulations and appreciation to all who have worked to bring it about. During the day and after, we hope you will visit our new office to check out our facility, to see our history, and to help us continue to know and grow our community.

Mary Ellen Clancey, Chair
Aspotogan Heritage Trust Society

Note from the Executive Director, Kathryn Gamache

October 2004



As Executive Director of the Aspotogan Heritage Trust, I am fortunate to be able to live and work in the community I call home. It is a privilege to be a part of the Trust and to be in a position to give back to my community in a very tangible way.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my job is meeting with others in the community who share my vision, passion and love for this community. The region covered within the boundaries of the Trust is one of the most beautiful areas of this province and home to a wonderful mix of people. The quality of life, traditions and heritage of this region are treasures to be protected and preserved.

The Trust shares this view of the region and its people, and recognizes the unique opportunities that lay ahead for this community. It is rare to find a community that has even one endowment fund to draw from, but this community is now home to two such funds. The Shatford Trust and the Aspotogan Heritage Trust, although addressing two different aspects of the community, are both structured in such a way as to preserve the principle assets and thus provide funding to the community in perpetuity.

As we enter our 10th year of operations, and a new phase of our strategic planning, we cannot forget those who have gone before us. I would like to thank all the staff and board members who have served the Trust over the past 10 years and who dedicated countless hours to their positions. To the present board, I look forward to the work that lies ahead and thank you for making each day of work a pleasure.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Gamache
Executive Director

History of the Aspotogan Heritage Trust Society

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. No sooner was the property secured than ACOA decided it would claw back one-third of the Trust's \$2 million adjustment fund and administer the other two-thirds of the funds from Halifax. This too was overcome on the basis of the Trust's many accomplishments and sustained appeals to Ottawa.

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 as the existing water utility was prohibitively expensive to operate and delivered a very poor quality product. 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.

The Trust's biggest success 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.

After seven years of ownership, the Aspotogan Heritage Trust's mission at the former Canadian Forces Station Mill Cove was completed in the spring of 2003. Mill Cove Park was sold on May 2, 2003, to a private development company from Halifax, which operate the property as Mill Cove Developments Limited. The decision to sell the property had been made in 1999 – 2000 following a strategic planning exercise by the Board of Directors. In order to prepare the property for sale, the Trust negotiated the transfer of water, sewer and road systems to the Municipality of the District 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 watercourses.

The property was listed with and sold by Turner Drake and Partners, a commercial real estate brokerage and appraisal firm in Halifax.

The purchase included all 65 residences, 4 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.

The proceeds from the sale of Mill Cove Park were combined with the Trust's other assets to create a \$4.5 million endowment from which community grants will be funded in perpetuity. In order to achieve this end, the Trust draws on a small amount of the interest every year from which it funds its operations. The principal of the fund is not used and reinvestment strategies are maintained in order to both protect and grow the funds over time.

List of Officers and Directors - 2004/2005

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position Held</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
Clancey, Mary Ellen	Chairperson	Retired Educator
Brighton, Rachel	Past-Chairperson	Freelance Writer
Coupe, Adrian	Vice-Chairperson	Manager, AMEC
Donnahee, Tom	Secretary/Treasurer	Realtor/ Owner
Conrad, Robert	Director	Fisherman
Murdoch, Gayle	Director	University Student
Shatford, Floyd	Director	District #2 Councilor
Parsons, Doreen	Director	Coordinator, Women's CED Network
Hopkins, Judy	Director	Retired Educator
Shanks, Gayle	Director	TD Banking Services
Routhier, Pat	Director	Executive Sales, Weekenders
Dyer, Mark	Director	Financial Services, American Express

Committee Structure 2004 - 2005

Executive Committee:

Mary Ellen Clancey – Chair
Adrian Coupe – Vice-Chair
Tom Donnahee – Secretary/Treasurer
Rachel Brighton – Immediate Past – Chair

Gayle Murdoch – Community Development Chair
Robert Conrad – Steering Committee Co-chair
Doreen Parsons – Steering Committee Co-chair

Steering Committee:

Doreen Parsons – Co-chair
Robert Conrad – Co-chair
Mary Ellen Clancey
Tom Donnahee
Rachel Brighton
Gayle Shanks

Community Development Committee:

Gayle Murdoch - Chair
Robert Conrad
Floyd Shatford
Mark Dyer
Judy Hopkins
Pat Routhier

Past Directors

Name	Term	
Charlene Davis	1998	2004
Dick Folley	1998	2004
Wendy Tamko	2000	2004
Pat Helm	2000	2003
Peter Cochrane	2000	2003
Marshal Hector	1999	2003
Bill Rudderham	2000	2001
Dr. Susan Pyke	1998	2001
Fraser Farmer	1998	1999
Linda Cahill	1998	1998
Hal Richman	1995	2000
Lee Publicover	1995	1998
Betty Henneberry	1995	1998
Kevin Page	1995	1998
Vincent Boutilier	1994	1998
Danny Shatford	1994	1998
Tim Douglas	1994	1994
Percy Shatford	1994	1997
Ronald Walker	1994	2000



Community Grants Program 1996 to 2004

1996



Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association

\$642

Consulting services for the restructuring of the Association.

1997



Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association

\$5000

Phase I of the feasibility study.



Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association

\$3000

Phase II of the feasibility study.



Blandford Community Improvement Committee

\$1000

Supported the addition of two “Welcome To Blandford” signs to the entrances of the community.



Mill Cove Recreation Association

\$2000

The Association was able to do needed repairs and maintenance to the Ocean Heights Sports Fields at Mill Cove Park including a storage facility for equipment, paint for grand stands, soccer goal posts and nets as well as a portable toilet for the summer season.



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$960

Provided assistance in purchasing ad space in the annual “Doers and Dreamers Guide”



Hubbards Heritage Society

\$629

Assisted with creating a display of photos of the Hubbards area, including the Fox Point Lighthouse and the Fox Point Wharf.

1998



Hubbards Fire Department

\$114, 000

With the transfer of ownership of CFS Mill Cove to the MCPDA, a large inventory of equipment was also acquired, including the base’s fire truck. In March of 1998 the truck was donated to the District #2 Fire Commission.



Mill Cove District Home and School

\$25

Supported the annual ice cream social.



Hubbards Heritage Society

\$510

Photos and framing charges for a series of six Ned Norwood photos of the Hubbards Fish Plant.



Aspotogan Recreation Association

\$250

A contribution was made towards the replacing of the road signs on route 329 at the entrance to the Community Centre.



Chester Municipal Chamber of Commerce

\$500

Helped to support the development of the “329: Vistas and Wharves” brochure, a publication designed to increase awareness of the Aspotogan region, which was distributed to Visitor Information Centres across the province.



Aspotogan Trail Association

\$977

Supported hiring a facilitator for community workshops.



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$577.77

Support of the annual Winter Carnival.

1999



Hubbards Barn Association

\$400

Helped to offset the cost of printing and mailing out flyers to promote the Farmer’s Market.



Blandford and Area Historical Society

\$500

Through this funding the Society was able to create an Historic Exhibit that was on display in the IOOF Lodge Room and the Blandford Community Centre from July 17, 1999 to August 29, 1999 with over 350 persons signing the guest book.



Aspotogan Trails Association

\$15, 000

Development of 11km recreational trail from Hubbards to East River.



Unicorn Theatre

\$1000

The Unicorn Theatre began in 1995 as a summer drama camp for 20 children at the Shore club in Hubbards and continues to be an ongoing part of the community of Hubbards and surrounding areas. Through its “Reach For The Stars” program, it offers children between the ages of 7 and 14 years the opportunity to take part in a variety of workshops and drama clubs as well as performing plays, musicals, and drama camps.



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$500

Support of the annual Winter Carnival.



Hubbards Hanging Basket Project

\$1000

Support of the 4th annual summer beautification project. The project was established in order to improve the visual impression of Hubbards during the peak tourism season through decorative floral arrangements along the roads and highways of Hubbards and Fox Point.



St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$500

Provided assistance in the publication of the annual "Doers and Dreamers Guide".



St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$1100

Provided one third of the cost of having a site plan and building estimate prepared for the Visitor's Information Centre site.

2000



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$500

Support of the annual Winter Carnival.



Hubbards Hanging Basket Project

\$1000

Support of the summer beautification project.



Chester Municipal Chamber of Commerce

\$500

In an effort to create an awareness that there is a great deal more that can be experienced in the Municipality, the Chamber of Commerce developed three self drive self guided tour brochures. The intent is visitor retention and visitor exposure to the many small businesses that lie along the routes identified in the tour brochures. These routes include Route 329 around the Aspotogan Peninsula.



Blandford and Area Historical Society

\$500

Blandford Interpretive Display, a part of the "Museums without walls" project, informed visitors of the area through an enlarged panoramic photograph (24" x 48") showing the community of Blandford and the islands of Mahone Bay. Other highlighted points of interest included a historical description of Blandford and points of interest about the community. Information on local businesses supporting the project were also made available for the visitors.



St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$500

A tourism strategy, developed with the LQRDA and HRDA, recommended, the revision of a tourism lure brochure and regional lap map for the area, both of which would be used to encourage visitation to the area as well as encouraging visitors to lengthen their stay.



St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$500

A second recommendation from the tourism strategy was the updating of the area's Visitor Information Centres. This funding was used to make necessary repairs to the Hubbards Visitor Information Centre as well as the updating of the facility's signage.



Aspotogan Recreation Association

\$500

Assisted in the development of the site plans for the first phase of a long term plan to create a community park for Blandford as well as the communities of Aspotogan.



Unicorn Theatre

\$1000

This funding was towards Phase II of the Theatre's "Reach For The Stars" program, which was launched in September of 1999. The objective of the program is to enable the Theatre to reach out to a larger number of children participating in the theatre and to be able to increase training and performance opportunities for our young local talent.

2001



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$500

Support of the annual Winter Carnival.



Hubbards Hanging Basket Project

\$1500

Support of the annual beautification project.



District #1 Community Centre

\$500

Assisted with mandatory health and safety upgrades.



Chester Municipal Chamber of Commerce

\$500

Driving Tours of Chester Municipality – self drive, self guided tour brochures featuring The Aspotogan Peninsula, Chester Basin, Martin’s River, Western Shore, New Ross and Windsor Road..



Friends of Forest Heights Association

\$500

Supported the “Friends of Forest Heights” program which assists school programs and events at Forest Heights Community School.



Fox Point/Mill Cove Beaches Committee

\$3000

After extensive damage from the previous winter, the Committee came together to clean up debris and to do a number of repairs. These included the extension of the picnic areas and retaining walls at both sites as well as the installation of stairs at Fox Point Beach.



Ocean Swells Community Association

\$1000

Assisted with the production of “A Wayve of Life: A Pictorial History of Nor’west and Sou’west Coves”, an exhibition depicting the cultural history of the communities of Northwest and Southwest Coves through stories, photos, paintings along with the dynamics of life in the twentieth century. The event served as a fundraiser to support the operation of the Ocean Swells Community Centre.

2002



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$500

Support of the annual Winter Carnival.



Hubbards Hanging Basket Project

\$1500

Support of the annual beautification project.



Blandford and Area Historical Society

\$277

This project included documenting, in the form of a brochure, cemeteries, historical buildings and points of interest in Blandford to the travelling public.



District #1 Community Centre

\$500

The Community Centre continued their efforts in renovating the building by upgrading the washrooms and wheelchair ramp.



Fox Point/Mill Cove Beaches Committee

\$2500

This year's project included the rock wall repair and extension, repair of picnic areas and sea wall as well as ramps for both areas to provide safer access.



Stop Application 1169 Committee

\$2000

Assisted this project by providing financial assistance to cover a portion of the legal costs associated with this committee's efforts to stop the Horse Island Fish Farm.



Through The Years Day Care and Community Centre

\$2400

Provided assistance with the development of a business plan to convert the Fox Point Elementary School to a daycare centre.



Harbour Authority of Fox Point

\$5000

Assisted with the completion of the first phase of armor stone reinforcement for the wharf in Fox Point.



Hubbards and Area Food Bank

\$500

A donation was made in order to provide assistance to those in need during the holiday season.



Ocean Swells Community Association

\$250

Provided funding for the equipment costs of showing the movie “High Tide At Noon”, filmed in Northwest Cove in 1956. The event was a fundraiser for the washrooms at the Ocean Swells Community Centre.



St. Margaret’s Bay Rails To Trails Association

\$10,800

Provided assistance in creating the trail from East River to Hubbards.



St. Margaret’s Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$5000

Provided assistance towards the construction of the Hubbard’s Visitor Services and Interpretation Centre.



Through The Years Day Care and Community Centre

\$250

In February of 2002, the Centre reached out to over 1500 homes in the community in the form of a mail-out survey.



Friends of Forest Heights

\$500

Supported the annual “Friends of Forest Heights” program.

2003



Hubbards Cove Business Association

\$500

Support of the annual Winter Carnival.



Hubbards Hanging Basket Project

\$1000

Support of the annual beautification project.



Aspotogan Arts and Crafts Association

\$500

Support of the 3rd Annual Gallery Exhibition which showcases the work of artists and craftspeople from the Aspotogan area.



District #1 Community Centre

\$10,000

Contributed to renovations to the Community Centre including painting, new blinds, valances and curtains as well as other necessary repairs.



Blandford Heritage Days

\$500

Support of the annual event which includes a weiner roast and fireworks display provided by the Blandford Volunteer Fire Department.



Blandford and Area Historical Society

\$900

Supported the reprinting of educational materials highlighting the history and culture of the community of Blandford.



Friends of Forest Heights

\$500

Supported the annual “Friends of Forest Heights” program. .



Fox Point/Mill Cove Beaches Committee

\$1300

Assisted in the cleanup, repair and maintenance of both beaches. This year’s projects included the construction of a permanent ramp to improve accessibility to the beach, repair storm damage to retaining walls and improve picnic areas.



Hubbards and Area Food Bank

\$200

A donation was made on behalf of Cynthia Driskill, a valued member of the community known for her generosity.



Hubbards Cove Business

\$500

Support of the annual Hubbards Cove Days



Hubbards Skate Board Park

\$2250

Assisted the Hubbards Skateboarding Park Planning Committee in building a new skateboard facility at the Hubbards Recreation Centre.



Harbour Authority of Fox Point

\$5000

Assisted with the completion of the second phase of armor stone reinforcement for the wharf in Fox Point. By extending the armor stone, it allowed the wharf to service as a “safe harbour” for the fishermen in the area during storms.



Hubbards Yacht Club Association

\$5000

Assisted in the expansion of the Silver Sail Program, the final class in the junior sailing program which instructs ages 14 to 17 in participating in races and regattas. This project included the hiring of a certified instructor, refurbishing and updating the existing fleet of boats, upgrading the docking facilities and constructing a new office and girls changing room.



Shatford Memorial Elementary School

\$100

Supported the Home and School’s annual Fun Fair, a major fundraiser for the elementary school which provides many of its programs. The event provides both the school children as well as community members a family event with activities, games and prizes as well as food and refreshments.



St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$2500

Supported the renovations on the second floor of the Hubbards Visitor Services and Interpretation Centre. This project provided additional floor space in order to make room for an HRDC employment counselling project and a community access point (C@P) site.



Through The Years Day Care and Community Centre

\$5000

A contribution was made towards playground equipment at the Centre.



The Cave (Fox Point Youth Group)

\$7000

In January of 2003, renovations were made to the lower level of the Centre for the after school program and the Fox Point Youth Group at The Cave. The members of The Cave were instrumental in planning and helping to run fundraisers to pay for improvements and equipment, which include a pool table and an air hockey game.

2004



Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School

\$500

Supported the annual Ice Cream Social which helps run school programs, buy equipment and supplies, as well as provide field trips.



Blandford Heritage Days

\$500

Support of the annual event.



Aspotogan Arts and Crafts Association

\$480

Support of the 4th Annual Gallery Exhibition.



Aspotogan Recreation Association

\$5000

Contributed to the renovation and upgrade of the existing outdoor recreational facility to provide safe public grounds.



Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers

\$195

Advertising space was purchased in the annual “Crime Stoppers Awareness Guide” which helps to solve unsolved crimes in the province as well as raise awareness about the program.



Western HRM Community Learning Network

\$759

Contributed funding towards communicating to potential learners in the area.



Fox Point/Mill Cove Beaches Committee

\$2000

Assisted in the cleanup, repair and maintenance of both beaches.



Hubbards Barn Association

\$250

Contributed to the development of a business plan.



Hubbards Cooperative Preschool

\$499

Contributed towards a new activity centre as well as the expansion of the existing library.



3rd Hubbards Scout Group

\$390

Assisted in funding the Group’s Winter Cub Camp, an annual event that enhances the youths’ understanding and respect of the natural environment. Activities include map and compass work, forest preservation, knots and rope work, meal preparation, survival in the forest as well as first aid.



PRO Kids

\$250

Contributed to a program which provides assistance to local children so that they can participate in community programs.



Blandford Heritage Days

\$500

Support of the annual event.



Mill Cove Rink

\$150

Contributed towards the installation for a lighting switch for the local skating rink.



Ocean Swells Community Association

\$7000

The Community Association continues to undergo renovations to the hall. This phase of the project included repairs to the entryway as well as the floor of the hall.



Shatford Memorial Elementary School

\$450

Supported the Home and School's annual Fun Fair.



St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association

\$1250

Funded a series of display units at the Hubbards Visitor Services and Interpretation Centre which will be used to provide advertising opportunities for local businesses. The advertising fees derived from these displays will be used to help offset the operating costs of the Centre.



Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia

\$300

Supported the "Staying in School" event which helps students explore the personal and financial realities of limiting their education.



World Tuna Flat Races

\$400

Supported the 10th annual event.



East River Village Hall

\$2000

Provided funding for renovations to the Hall's ceiling.



Through The Years Day Care and Community Centre

\$2000

Contributed towards the paving of the courtyard and the installation of basketball nets.

Contact Information

For more information about the Aspotogan Heritage Trust Society, please contact us at any contact information below.

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