



Report on Activities



National Capital Commission Board of Directors

**Public Meeting
November 18, 2015**

I. Make LeBreton Flats and the Chaudière and Albert islands a signature destination of national significance.

Redevelopment of LeBreton Flats

- The request for proposals process for the redevelopment of LeBreton Flats closes on December 15, and the public consultation will be launched early in the New Year.
- The proposed public engagement plan for LeBreton Flats will include briefings with both elected officials and the media, in addition to consultations with Aboriginal groups and the public on January 26 and 27.

II. Offer public access and new connections for Canadians to discover the shorelines and waterways.

- No update.

III. Modernize the NCC's planning framework and complete the Plan for Canada's Capital.

Plan for Canada's Capital

- Over the course of the summer, we held a series of targeted consultations on the draft Plan for Canada's Capital with federal partners.
- In December, we will launch a public engagement campaign to seek input on big ideas that could shape the Capital leading from the sesquicentennial in 2017 through to the bicentennial in 2067.

Capital Illumination Plan

- The Capital Illumination Plan is an NCC initiative to advance a unified lighting scheme for the core of the Capital in partnership with key stakeholders in the private and public sectors.
- A joint-venture comprised of the MMM Group and Lumipraxis has been retained to develop the plan.

IV. Ensure the successful delivery of national commemorative projects.

2017 – Canada's Sesquicentennial Celebrations

- We are continuing with our 5 themes of enabling Capital projects, beautifying the Capital, facilitating other partner's initiatives, facilitating event permits and our special projects, which include the Confederation Pavilions and the Capital Illumination Plan.

Memorial to Victims of Communism

- We anticipate that the Department of Canadian Heritage will provide the National Capital Commission with further information on their plans for this project in the coming weeks.

Canadian Building Trades Monument

- On Labour Day, the 5 finalist design teams for the Canadian Building Trades Monument were announced publicly, following a design competition.
- The concepts will be presented to the NCC's Advisory Committee on Planning, Design and Realty on December 10, and there will be an open house to collect public comments shortly thereafter.
- The monument is scheduled to be unveiled in May 2017 in Major's Hill Park, in time for the sesquicentennial celebrations.

National Holocaust Monument

- The National Holocaust Monument went back to a re-tendering process with the benefit of construction management advice.
- We are currently in the process of soliciting bids to prequalify contractors, and the RFP will be posted in December.

V. Be a value-added partner in Canada's Capital Region.

Orientation for Newly Arrived Diplomats

- On November 12, the NCC addressed newly arrived diplomats through Carleton University's Initiative for Parliamentary and Diplomatic Engagement.
- We spoke about some of the legacies of the NCC and our predecessor organizations and encouraged them to work with us on various projects and initiatives.

National Capital Planning Commission Presentation

- At the beginning of October, Stephen Willis and I made a presentation to the National Capital Planning Commission in Washington D.C. on our Capital region.
- We spoke about our plans for 2017, the redevelopment of LeBreton Flats and the Plan for Canada's Capital.

Building Owners and Managers Association Luncheon

- Stephen Willis made a presentation to members of the Building Owners and Managers Association on November 10.
- Stephen spoke about the transformational potential of some of the NCC's real-estate assets and about our joint interest in ensuring the Capital is looking it's best for 2017 and beyond.

Capital Urbanism Lab Events

- Since our last board meeting we have had several successful events in the Capital Urbanism Lab, which consistently draw over 100 people. Some of these include:
 - A book launch event on October 1 for co-authors Larry Beasley and Jonathan Barnett, who spoke about their book *Ecodesign for Cities and Suburbs*.
 - The scientific community shared some of their research findings on October 22 on Gatineau Park, Mer Bleue Bog and the Lac Deschênes-Ottawa River Important Bird Area.
 - Mike Lydon joined us on October 29 in the Lab for a discussion on Tactical Urbanism. For the first time, we used Periscope to broadcast this event.
 - On November 18, A Retrospective on Capital Planning will be held at a special location, 100 Sparks street, as the Capital Urbanism Lab undergoes renovations.

Remic Rapids Wetland Restoration

- As a mitigation measure to the development activities at LeBreton Flats, we recently undertook a wetlands restoration project at Remic Rapids on the Ottawa River.
- This is a project delivered in partnership with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority.

Infrastructure Work in Gatineau Park

- This summer, four new projects were completed in Gatineau Park:
 - The rehabilitation of the Renaud Shelter at Philippe Lake.
 - The bridge at the Gatineau Park Visitor's Centre was replaced, which will permit mobility-reduced clients to access Sugarbush Trail.
 - Four major culverts were replaced on the Gatineau Park parkway.
 - The dams at Fortune and Dennison Lakes were repaired to ensure infrastructure is protected against flooding.

Fall Rhapsody

- The three weekends of Fall Rhapsody went very well with thousands of visitors who made their way to Gatineau Park.
- This year we undertook a pilot project with Camp Fortune to offer a shuttle service. Approximately 6,200 people used the shuttle service.
- We also had 6,900 people participate in the special events we organized at the farmer's market around the Meech Creek Valley, at Anishinabe Nibin (Algonquin program) at the Visitor's Centre, at Philippe Lake and at the Pontiac Country Fair.

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- We offered a new activity this year in partnership with Astro Pontiac whereby the public was invited to observe the sun and stars through telescopes at the Luskville Falls.

Gatineau Park Responsible Trail Management Workshops

- Following previous public consultations, a series of 4 workshops have begun this fall with targeted Park users to identify solutions in the management of unofficial trails in Gatineau Park.
- Our goal is to restore certain sensitive habitats and reduce our ecological footprint in certain areas, while also ensuring ample opportunities for people to use and enjoy the Park.

Species at Risk Protection

- This summer, NCC biologists and student biologists developed a project to evaluate potential habitats for the monarch butterfly.
- A report will be forthcoming, the results of which will serve to guide our management practices of open natural areas in the Park to ensure the monarch's protection.

Commemorative Tree Planting

- On October 24, the NCC participated in a commemorative tree planting in Vincent Massey Park with Library and Archives Canada.
- 130 white pines were planted to commemorate the digitization of the military services files of those who served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the First World War.

70th Anniversary Friendship Tulip Garden

- On October 28, our Board member Kay Stanley, on behalf of the NCC, joined the Canadian Garden Council in Commissioners Park to plant 7,000 red and white tulips in honour of the 70th anniversary of the first gift of Dutch tulips sent to Canada in 1945.

Mackenzie Avenue Cycling Lanes

- On October 28, we announced that we are working collaboratively with the Embassy of the United States and the City of Ottawa to improve mobility on Confederation Boulevard by constructing dedicated cycling lanes on Mackenzie Avenue.
- This project will be presented to the NCC Board for their approval.

Tin House Court Tenant Relocation

- Major work will be commencing in the New Year at the Tin House block on Sussex Drive and we are in the process of relocating tenants to comparable accommodations to ensure minimal disruption to their businesses.

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- Pending Board approval, we will be undertaking work at 283 Sussex as part of our tenant relocations. We have been in touch with the community association and we are hoping to meet with them in early December.

VI. Demonstrate corporate excellence such that the NCC is recognized as an exemplary federal Crown corporation.

24 Sussex Drive

- As steward of this unique and nationally significant heritage property, the National Capital Commission is working with all our federal partners to brief the new government on the future of 24 Sussex Drive.
- We recognize the historic and symbolic importance of the residence of Canada's Prime Minister and are ensuring that issues related to security, functionality, environmental sustainability, design excellence and heritage preservation are taken into consideration in our preparations.
- We have also been in the process of coordinating the transition at Stornoway, the official residence of the leader of the opposition, which we expect to be completed in the coming weeks.

NCC Website Redesign

- We are always looking for ways to improve our communications with the public. In this vein, I am happy to say that we will be redesigning the NCC website to ensure that information is easy to find and caters to our clients' needs.

Social Media

- We've had some great successes with our social media accounts this fall, including:
 - We've reached a new milestone on Instagram with 1,000 followers (a 400% increase since the beginning of the year).
 - Our #FallRhapsody photo contest on Instagram was also very successful, as we received more than 1,000 photos.
 - In October, we had more than 10,000 interactions on social media with our followers, the majority of them related to Fall Rhapsody.
 - Our content for Ottawa Architecture Week generated nearly 60,000 impressions over the course of 7 days in September.
 - We live-streamed using Periscope on October 29 during the Tactical Urbanism presentation. We had around 100 people follow the conversation using this app, which almost doubled the number of people who were able to participate.