



Report on Activities



National Capital Commission Board of Directors

**Public Meeting
September 8, 2015**

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

Redevelopment of LeBreton Flats

- In April, the NCC issued a request for proposals to four qualified proponents who were invited to take part in the second stage of a process to select a proponent for the redevelopment of LeBreton Flats.
- At the request of these proponents, the deadline to submit proposals was pushed back from October 30th to December 15th, 2015.
- A public open house presentation will take place in January 2016.

LeBreton Flats Transitional Improvements

- The construction tender for the transitional improvements at LeBreton Flats closed on August 20th. We are currently in the process of awarding this contract.

Zibi by Windmill

- Our role in these negotiations has been to work with the proponents to reflect key capital interests, such as:
 - Conserving built heritage;
 - Creating strong connections to the NCC's pathway system;
 - Reintroducing public access to the Chaudière Falls;
- Our Duty to Consult with Algonquin First Nations will be triggered once there is reasonable certainty that the lands owned by the federal government will pass through the NCC to the Windmill Group.

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

Parks Canada Request for Proposals

- With respect to some particular initiatives, the NCC has been asked to adopt a consultative role by Parks Canada for their Request for Proposals to animate the Rideau Canal.

Paul's Boat Line

- A new five-year lease has been signed with Paul's Boat Lines to continue the service out of the Jacques Cartier Park wharf and at the Ottawa locks.

Bronson Pulp Mill Ruins and Richmond Landing

- We are nearing the end of the planning phase of this project with the completion of heritage research as well as a thorough analysis of the site conditions.
- The plan benefited from a public consultation last October, as well as Aboriginal consultations at various stages of the project.
- Interpretation and way finding plans will improve the entire site.
- Overall, these improvements represent an investment of about \$10 million and we are on track to have this work completed for 2017.

Art Festival Recycl'Art

- I'd like to note the success of the Recycl'Art art festival, which ran from July 4 to September 7, 2015 along Brewery Creek.
- This was a partnership with le Centre d'art contemporain de l'Outaouais and the Ville de Gatineau.

III. Modernize the NCC's planning framework and complete the Plan for Canada's Capital 2017-2067.

- There are two goals with respect to the planning framework:
 - To improve service-delivery to our external clients; and
 - To streamline the internal capacity so that our staff can focus on the process for handling federal land use and design approvals.

IV. Ensure the successful delivery of national commemorative projects.

National Holocaust Monument

- The National Holocaust Monument, went back to a re-tendering process.
- The design team completed design refinements to ensure that the project remains on budget.
- Our goal is to have the monument completed for Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on April 23rd, 2017.

National Memorial to Victims of Communism

- The Department of Canadian Heritage continues to make progress on developing the final design and implement the recommendations which were made by our Advisory Committee on Planning, Design and Realty.
- Canadian Heritage will submit the revised design to the NCC for its approval in due course, but not before its November Board meeting.

Garden of the Provinces & Territories Rehabilitation

- The rehabilitation is already underway with new gardens, improved drainage, restoration of the fountain and additional masonry improvements.
- Almost a hundred percent of the plantings are native species or their cultivars, which ensures a good representation of species from all across Canada.

Confederation Park Rehabilitation

- Confederation Park is one of the most popular parks in the urban core, hosting many events such as Winterlude, the Ottawa Jazz Festival and the Ottawa Race Weekend.
- Some of the vegetation has already been cleaned up and removed and beds of annuals have been added.
- We will also be reviewing interpretation, commemoration and public art strategies.

Nepean Point

- The national design competition will bring a new vision for Nepean Point and the surrounding five-hectare site.
- We benefited from a session with the National Gallery of Canada, the Global Center of Pluralism and the Royal Canadian Mint a few weeks ago to workshop this project and help strengthen the brief for the design competition.
- We'll be replacing the deteriorating infrastructure dating back to 1967, improving universal accessibility and entrances to the site, and enhancing the way-finding.
- We foresee that construction work will take place after the end of the tourist season in 2017.

V. Be a Value-Added Partner in Canada's Capital Region.

Ottawa Light Rail Transit

- Through our joint working group with the City of Ottawa, we resolved the issue of the routing on the western parkway and we are advancing towards a final agreement.
- Over the summer, our team has worked assiduously with the City to complete more than 100 land transactions required for phase one.
- The result is a comprehensive land assembly for the light rail transit system within the parameters and timeframe set by the City.

7 Clarence and Tin Court Area Rehabilitation

- Major investments need to be made, particularly in the 400 block of Sussex Drive.
- We have been working with the local businesses and stakeholders to arrive at a construction plan that will consolidate this work into one period.

- The five stakeholder meetings that were held have been decisive in creating a win-win project both for the community and the NCC and for Canadians as this site of national importance will be restored.
- Our call for expressions of interest to diplomatic missions for using the new building at 7 Clarence as an exposition space during 2017 was well subscribed.

Gatineau Park

- 2016-17 has been identified as the ideal time to begin a renewal of the Gatineau Park Master Plan, which is 10 years old.
- An early initiative on this is a pilot project we have planned for the 2015 edition of Fall Rhapsody.
- In collaboration with the Société de transport de l'Outaouais and Camp Fortune, the NCC will offer a shuttle service to some of the scenic lookouts during the most popular days of Fall Rhapsody.
- Similarly, in collaboration with the municipalities of Chelsea, Pontiac and La Pêche, the NCC will promote alternative destinations in the Park during the busiest weekend in the fall to help minimize the pressure on the more popular areas and will support tourism in the adjacent municipalities.

Moore Farm Lease Agreement

- The Moore Farm lease agreement was signed on July 21st between the NCC and La Coopérative de solidarité de la ferme Moore. Under the terms of this new lease, Moore Farm, will become a showcase for urban farming and eco-tourism.
- The Cooperative has agreed to operate one of our Confederation Pavilions for 2017.

Agricultural Request for Proposals

- We issued a request for proposals for seven agricultural properties in the Greenbelt. Our objective is to attract tenants wishing to build a vibrant and sustainable agricultural sector.
- We'll be evaluating the bids and selecting future tenants based on criteria which have been developed.
- We hope to have some of these leases signed even as early as this fall.

Parks and Pathways

- NCC parks, pathways and parkways are key assets to the Capital and we have been facilitating the use of them by supporting festivals and events all through this summer.

- I would like to thank our capital stewardship staff who've been supporting hundreds of events and maintaining our pathways and the parks especially heavily used through the summer.

Species at Risk Protection

- The NCC will be working with Carleton University and the Ottawa Field Naturalists Club to support a recovery initiative for the Least Bittern, a species at risk in the Greenbelt. The Least Bittern is the smallest member of the heron family nesting in Canada and is listed as “threatened”.
- Together we will conduct research to see how Greenbelt lands could be rendered more hospitable for this species.
- The NCC received funding from Environment Canada’s Intergovernmental Recovery Fund to carry out this project.

Archaeology Month

- Approximately 700 people took part in three weekends of archaeological digs at Leamy Lake Park in the month of August.
- This highly successful event was undertaken in partnership with the réseau Archéo-Québec, the province of Québec and the City of Gatineau.

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

Corporate Strategic Planning

- This past June, we piloted a new format for our Annual Public Meeting in order to integrate public input into our strategic planning process, as well as to allow for meaningful engagement between the Board and citizens.
- NCC Board members, executives and staff had a workshop with members of the public on the main questions that the NCC should address in its next planning cycle.
- The public’s comments and suggestions were analyzed and condensed into themes which will inform the Board’s strategic planning session this week.