

**Rideau Corridor Landscape Strategy  
Steering Committee Meeting #8  
April 1, 2011  
Township of Montague, Ontario**

**Steering Committee Members in Attendance:** Jeff Scott, Doug Thompson, Lynn Clouthier, Phil Gerrard, Susan Freeman, Aubrey Churchill, Dennis Staples, Judy Brown, Steve Knechtel, Jane Topping, Bill Thake, Dan Grunig, Sheldon Laidman, Bill Dobson, Pam Buell, Doug Struthers

**Secretariat:** Pam Buell, Susan Millar, Melissa Francis

**Observers:** Peter Au, David Taylor, Taro Alps, Rowena Cooper, Maureen Williams, Peter Young, Andrew Jeanes

**Regrets:** Sandra Candow, Karen Currie, Mark Gerretson

- 1. Welcome from Bill Dobson, Reeve for Montague Township**
- 2. Approval of February 28, 2011 meeting minutes**

**a. MOVED** by Bill Thake. **SECONDED** by Sheldon Laidman. **CARRIED.**

- 3. Business Arising from February 28, 2010 meeting minutes**

Proposal for a large digital screen on the Ottawa Convention Centre (Item 5): Since Linda Dicaire's presentation at the last Steering Committee meeting, Parks Canada attended an NCC workshop on February 15 2011, which included NCC staff and 2 representatives from the NCC's Advisory Committee on Planning, Design and Realty (ACPDR). The proposal was then reviewed on March 3 2011, at a meeting of the ACPDR, at which Parks Canada presented the key values of the Rideau Canal in this location and expressed concerns with the impact a digital screen would have on the historic and visual values and exceptional visitor experience of the Canal and adjacent national historic sites. The NCC staff report and ACPDR's feedback will be brought to NCC Board of Directors in the near future.

The Steering Committee developed a motion regarding their concerns with the digital screen:

*The Rideau Corridor Landscape Strategy Steering Committee is seriously concerned about the (potential) negative visual impact that the proposed digital screen on the Ottawa Convention Centre, would have on the UNESCO World Heritage and National Historic Site designations of the Rideau Canal.*

**MOVED:** Phil Gerrard. **SECONDED:** Doug Thomspson. **CARRIED.**

This will be included in a letter and sent to the City of Ottawa Mayor, NCC CEO and Secretariat media contacts. All Steering Committee members will also receive a copy.

**REQUESTS from Steering Committee:** To receive regular updates on the digital screen issue.  
To receive regular updates on the number of hits for the new RCLS video.

#### **4. Draft Terms of Reference for Community Consultation Group**

After some discussion, the Steering Committee developed a motion:

*The formation of the CCG will be postponed. The public consultation process will be enlarged in the RFP to ensure it includes all groups to be involved in the Landscape Character Assessment.*

**MOVED:** Susan Freeman. **SECONDED:** Doug Thompson. **CARRIED.**

#### **5. Draft RFP for Landscape Character Assessment**

The group reviewed the latest version of the RFP and made numerous changes to wording and formatting. The most significant change to the RFP will be the enhancement of the Public Consultation section which will now take into consideration the postponement of the formation of the Community Consultation Group and require the inclusion of all groups to be involved in the LCA.

A recommendation for the RFP was voiced from the Algonquins of Ontario: Historical and cultural heritage must include pre-contact regarding long term aboriginal concerns (South March Highlands controversy).

#### **6. Rideau Canal – Grand Canal Friendship Agreement, draft resolution – deferred**

#### **7. Correspondence- none**

#### **8. Roundtable**

Susan Freeman: The Rideau Heritage Route Tourism Association has suggested that the RCLS may want to be part of the Rideau Canal Festival this summer. It is held at various locations throughout Ottawa and could provide an excellent opportunity to reach many people. The consultant should be made aware of this opportunity. Merrickville's Canal Fest is held the same weekend and should also be explored as an option.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, May 13, 2011  
Ottawa City Hall.