

2019 UPTON AGM PRESIDENTS REPORT

Here is a summary of what we have been up to this past year.

CORNWALL BYPASS PROJECT

When we left off last year, I indicated that we were still in negotiations with the Province in regards to the Cornwall Bypass Project. In the end, we settled on the following:

Of the 4 acre parcel that had been exempted from NAPA for future road work, the Province gets 3.16 acres, we get the remaining .84 acres at the corner, which was then placed under NAPA protection.

The area that was conveyed to the Province was along the north side of the Trans Canada. (see survey on the wall)

We received:

\$22,000 for the 3 acres along the Trans Canada

\$3600 in lieu benches

\$5400 in lieu of the well

For a total of \$31,000.

We received the funds in the fall.

This land could never be sold or developed due to our agreement with the Province. The Province had the option to purchase this land for road widening.

OFF LEASH ZONE

Each year we seem to state that we are close to establishing our off leash zone and once again we were delayed. Our goal has always been to improve the space prior to its implementation, mainly via new trails to encourage the expanded use of the designated area. We had hoped to have this completed last fall, but once we had the funds in place from the Bypass settlement, we had lost access to our trail designer and winter came unexpectedly early. I am pleased to report that our trail project will begin this coming weekend. We have also received our signs and they are ready to install once the fencing is complete. We are excited to improve the already existing trails, add news ones, and use these trails to naturally encourage wider usage of this area and compliance to the boundaries we will be establishing.

I will repeat myself from last year for those who may not have been present: The NAPA deed restricts the amount of land we can designate as off leash to 20 acres and this is the amount of land we will in fact designate. Adherence to this **RULE** is imperative for Upton to maintain its status with NAPA as well as for Upton to thrive. So, while I am acutely aware that this will be an adjustment, I am counting on the members and users to

respect the property, by respecting the rules set forth by the Trust and NAPA. Please note that the Trust does not have the ability to alter these restrictions.

INFRASTRUCTURE

We have benches being constructed, a large signage order recently received and the fence contractor ready to go. We are also awaiting a repair job on the Regis Duffy parking lot, courtesy of the Department of Transportation. They were unable to do this work in the winter, and we are on their list for repair. And as I mentioned, trail work will begin shortly.

OPTION TO PURCHASE

We are in the process of renewing the Option to Purchase 2 acres of land we own next to the PE HOME. It's a small narrow strip of land running on the north side of the PE Home property. The Province has had this option to purchase as part of the original agreement from 2009. This will be the second time we have renewed the option for an additional 5 years. The Province will cover the property taxes payable as this land was exempted from the NAPA designation.

MAP

PARKING/DUMPING/CUTTING

On a negative note, we continue to experience some issues with the property such as dumping, long term parking, vehicles for sale, and reports and signs of users cutting trees and branches on the land. We also have recently had an issue with an aggressive dog.

As for the dumping, this is very hard to control, but once we have our vehicle gates and rock barriers installed, it will at least limit the access into the property. As far as parking goes, we have new signs stating that parking is for park users only and no overnight parking is permitted. If you do see someone parking overnight or a vehicle parked with a for sale sign on it, please take a photo of the phone number and license number for us to follow up on.

ANY alteration of the property that is not board sanctioned is prohibited. If you see anyone cutting, digging, or removing any material, please let us know. The Trust can and will take action if we feel it is warranted. The land is protected under the Natural Areas Protections Act and only the Trust is allowed to do maintenance and alterations.

As for incidents regarding dogs.....we fully realized and expect there to be issues from time to time but when a particular dog is reported to have caused harm to another dog and we hear that there are repeated incidents, we have no choice but to remove permission to use the property for that owner. What we do not want is to be asked to police every minor altercation.

WEBSITE

Grant Johnson has managed to move and update our website to allow for some functionality we did not have on our old site. The Address is the same. We will be adding to the site in the near future with PAYPAL, and hope to improve on the information and background of the property.

TREES

Once again, Beth Hoar facilitated and participated in the Business Tree Planting with 5 companies and staff from The Sustainability. 300 native trees and shrubs were planted on the property May 30th of this year.

We also applied for and were granted Carbon Capture Tree Planting Program through the Province and the area to be planted can be seen on the following slide.

SLIDE

The goal is to introduce reforestation on agricultural and marginal lands here on the island. The Forest Enhancement Programme will be in charge of the work and they anticipated the planting will begin once each land package is assessed to determine the best species mix. They currently have white spruce and white pine available but will add more species and add hardwoods when they become available. All the costs associated with planting are covered by the province.

JOSH UNDERHAY

On a sad note, I had been chatting with Josh Underhay months ago about some ideas he had about Bicycle paths on Upton. I am pleased to say that our communications are continuing with his wife and we hope to be able to execute some of Josh's ideas on the property, possibly naming a path after him.

Thank you. That concludes my report.

I'm sure some of you have questions and I'll be happy to answer them later in the meeting. We'd like to move through our agenda and can get in to discussion in the Q&A period. Otherwise, it makes it very hard to stay on track.

Can I have a member move to accept the Presidents Report?

Can someone second?

The report has been accepted.