16th General Assembly and International Scientific Symposium
Quebec, Canada, Sept. 29 to Oct. 4, 2008

E-News – No. 7 [August 2008]
This newsletter is distributed to ICOMOS Canada members and to the ICOMOS 16th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium Organizing Committee. Its purpose is to inform them on the latest developments

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1. Her Excellency Michaëlle Jean and Grand Chief Max ‘Oné-Onti’ Gros Louis honour us with their presence

It is with great pleasure that we inform you that Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada has agreed to be the Honorary President of the ICOMOS 16th General Assembly and International Scientific Symposium. She will welcome the delegates during the opening ceremonies on September 30th at the Palais Montcalm in the presence of the dignitaries invited for this occasion.

Place for youth: Young people are one of the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean’s priorities. She would like the institution that she represents to give them special focus. She wants them to know that their ideas count, as does their way of seeing and understanding the world.
Redefining the ties that unite us globally: The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean strongly believes that the 21st century should see us finding values that are common to every civilization. In her opinion, our horizons have now been expanded to the size of the world and require even greater solidarity. What better way to unite us world-wide than our love for the cultural heritage that we safeguard and pass on to the next generations.

Among the dignitaries, is Grand Chief Max ‘Oné-Onti’ Gros-Louis of the Huron-Wendat nation who will preside a purification ceremony. This is a traditional custom among First Nations; the host nation welcoming the other nations to its territory carries on such a ceremony.

Grand Chief Max ‘Oné-Onti’ Gros Louis is renowned for his commitments as founding member and leader of organizations dedicated to culture and Amerindian rights: he is successively founding member, vice-president and treasurer of the Quebec Indians Association from 1965 to 1976; secretary of the Indian Advisory Council during five years; director of the World Assembly of First Nations during three years. He was Director and Deputy-Chief of the Canadian Assembly of First Nations during ten years and representative of the Abenakis and Huron-Wendat nations as well as member of the national committees of the Association of First Nations.

2. Only two months to go...

There are only two months left before the opening of the ICOMOS 16th General Assembly and International Scientific Symposium. The deadline for submitting texts, programs and information to be included in the official programme is **August 15**.

You will surely recall that we had planned to host the congress’ banquet at the Manège militaire that regretfully burnt down last March. After studying various alternatives, the Organizing committee has finally decided to hold the hunting ceremonial and banquet under a large tent that will be set up in front of the Jeanne-d'Arc garden on the Plains of Abraham.

The meal will be of the type ‘cocktails and buffet’ which reduces the needs for infrastructure and therefore the costs. It is during this event that the Piero Gazzola (ICOMOS) and Jacques Dalibard (ICOMOS Canada) Awards will be given.
3. The Quilt of Belonging at the ICOMOS Congress

The Quilt of Belonging will be exhibited at the Quebec Congress Center and will serve as the backdrop to the meetings of ICOMOS delegates. The Quilt of Belonging is a stunning textile art project that shows there is a place for all in the fabric of society. Quilt of Belonging is a 120 foot long by 10.5 foot high (36 metres by 3.5 metres) tapestry. The rich, cultural legacies portrayed in the 263 blocks include all the First Peoples in Canada and every nation of the world.

Quilt of Belonging exhibited in the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Ottawa

Quilt of Belonging is a collaborative work of art that took six years to complete. The project was begun in the fall of 1998 by Ontario artist Esther Bryan and required the work of volunteers from all over the country. It will be exhibited in the main hall of the Quebec Congress Center during the opening ceremonies of the ICOMOS 16th General Assembly. Delegates will have the opportunity to meet the artist and purchase the publication that describes the fascinating history of the creation of this remarkable art work.

4. Public lecture on September 29 at Palais Montcalm

The Martin Weaver Memorial Fund, in association with ICOMOS Canada, will present the annual Martin Weaver Memorial Lecture at the 16th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Quebec City.

Martin Weaver Annual Memorial Lecture

The aim of the ICOMOS Canada Martin Weaver Memorial Fund (MWMF) is to reflect the life’s work of the late Martin Weaver by promoting practical, hands-on education, training and research in the field of heritage conservation in Canada. Funds raised go towards a bursary to be awarded to students/young professionals who demonstrate their commitment to this mission.

The Committee invites all ICOMOS delegates and the public to a memorable evening on Monday September 29 at 8:00 PM. This occasion will mark the first presentation of a Bursary from the Martin Weaver Memorial Fund that will be presented by Mrs. Leslie Perowne-Weaver.
Two remarkable speakers, Dr. Fredrik Hiebert and renowned Canadian archaeologist Robert Grenier will talk about two fascinating topics. Dr. Fredrik Hiebert, archaeologist from the National Geographic Society, will speak about his participation to the archaeological digs that led to the discovery of what is now known as the “Hidden Treasures of Afghanistan”. These treasures were believed to be destroyed during the war against the Taliban, but they had been hidden by the Director of the Kabul National Museum. They are currently exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C.

Robert Grenier is Head of Parks Canada’s underwater archaeology programme and President of the ICOMOS international scientific committee on Underwater Cultural Heritage. He will speak about his twenty years of archaeological research on the Canadian Northern Route and the North-West Passage where shipwrecks were discovered, belonging to the Vikings, the Basques and other European explorers who sailed the northern seas during the 16th and 17th centuries. Really, this is an event that you should not miss!

5. Financial contributions

We are very grateful to Parks Canada for its important financial contribution ($400K) in support of the ICOMOS 16th General Assembly activities as well as to the Quebec “ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine ($250K). The Heritage Conservation Directorate of Public Works and Government Services Canada signed a service agreement with ICOMOS Canada under which thirty of its employees will be registered at the Congress.

The “Institut du patrimoine culturel” of Laval University contributed $15K to the Youth Forum in addition to providing time from its employees, facilities and other services for the International Scientific Symposium and the Youth Forum.

The Quebec “ministère des Relations internationales du Québec” contributed $3K to support traveling expenses of guest speakers Spanish architects Nieto and Sobejano. At the invitation of the Organizing Committee, architect Nieto and Sobejano (www.nietosobejano.com) have agreed to give a lecture at the School of Architecture of Laval University, located in Old Quebec. The generous support of the City of Quebec was mentioned in our last E-News.

6. ICOMOS President, Secretary General and Director of the Secretariat in Quebec City

ICOMOS President, Michael Petzet, Secretary General Dinu Bumbaru and ICOMOS Secretariat Director Gaia Jungeblodt were in Quebec City for the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meetings last July. They took time to meet with the 16th General Assembly Organizing Committee members and discuss organization details.
7. Post Congress Study Tours

Not enough delegates registered for the East and West post congress study tours to meet the break even number and these tours regrettably had to be cancelled. We are happy to announce that 43 delegates have registered to the 1A Tour (Montreal) for which there is only 6 places left before we close registrations. Delegates from the following countries have registered to this tour: Norway, Brazil, Australia, Belgium, Turkey, France, Italy, China, Sweden, Iran, Austria, Spain, Russia, Scotland, Canada, Germany and South Africa.

18 Delegates have registered for tour 1B (Ottawa-Montebello) that is now complete.

8. Session - Finding the Spirit of the Place in World Heritage Sites: Aboriginal Approaches in Perspective

On October 1st, a special one day session whose focus will be on discussing and representing the spirit of place in and around World Heritage (WH) sites as evoked and applied by aboriginal peoples in Canada and internationally will be conducted as part of the Congress.

National Parks agencies and government authorities around the world that manage or oversee WH sites are looking at ways to better convey spirit of place and cultural/natural evolution of a site, as interpreted by the indigenous people who live around them. The desire is to identify tangible ways to work with aboriginal groups that retain this important cultural/natural heritage fabric that has sustained local people, while ensuring that the representation of a site’s character and integrity retains its authenticity.

We have invited Canadian aboriginal band speakers from SGang Gwaay (British Columbia), Nahanni National Park Reserve (Northwest Territories), Wood Buffalo National Park (Alberta), Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump (Alberta), and the Rideau Canal (Ontario). Internationally, we will have representatives from Australia, Latin America, Scandinavia, Southeast Asia and the United States aboriginal groups that are involved with WH sites near their respective communities. There will be a roundtable discussion at the end of the day to discuss the key issues raised, to formulate recommendations on approaches to potentially resolve or mitigate these issues.
9. Workshop on “The Canadian Ways”: October 2

On Thursday, October 2, during the ICOMOS Scientific Symposium in Quebec City, participants will have the opportunity to attend a workshop that will provide a broad overview of the practice of heritage conservation in Canada. Experts and practitioners from the three levels of government, educational institutions, and civil-society organizations will participate in two panels – the first to introduce Canadian practice and the second to discuss Canadian perspectives on spirit of place.

The objectives are:

- To profile selected, uniquely Canadian approaches and innovative Canadian practices.
- To provide our international colleagues with a glimpse of the breadth and complexity of Canada.
- To raise the challenges and opportunities associated with heritage conservation in a federal, multi-national, geographically vast state characterized by multiple cultural and linguistic narratives.
- To provide information that may aid or inspire international and Canadian delegates working within their respective national contexts.

A detailed agenda will be posted shortly on www.quebec2008.icomos.org.

The workshop is being organized by ICOMOS Canada members Lyse Blanchet, Madeleine Demers, Tom Urbaniak, and John Ward. For more information, please contact Tom Urbaniak (Cape Breton University) at 1-999-959-9995, ext. 1226 (tom.urbaniak@cbu.ca).

10. Miscellaneous

Would you like to sell your cultural heritage publications?
Have you published a book in the field of heritage conservation? Does your institution publish books in this field? Would you like to sell them at the congress? Then please communicate directly with Pierre Reid who will man a table for this purpose during the General Assembly and International Scientific Symposium: Pierre Reid, Responsable des achats / librairie, Zone Université Laval, Librairie Universitaire; Tel (418) 656-2600 poste 8453 - Fax (418) 656-2665 - pierre.reid@zone.coop

Need for translators...
Do you have language skills to translate from English or French to another language? The ICOMOS international secretariat would like to know; it could make good use of your talents during the congress to translate texts or to help with delegates who may have problems to communicate in French or English. Please communicate your interest directly to Gaia Jungeblodt, Director of the secretariat gaia.jungeblodt@icomos.org

Need volunteers during the General Assembly...
The Organizing Committee is looking for volunteers to help with various tasks during the General Assembly. Please offer your services directly to Michel Bonnette michelbonnette@videotron.ca
Many thanks.

Would you like to participate to the activities of the International Scientific Committees?
You can register to the committees’ activities that will be held on September 29 directly from the web site where you have registered to the congress.
Requests for information

- ICOMOS Canada: http://canada.icomos.org
- ICOMOS: http://icomos.org

For additional information concerning the organization of the Quebec ICOMOS 2008 event:

- **CANADIAN CONTENT** – John Ward (English) John.Ward@pwgsc.gc.ca; Alain Dejeans (Français) adejeans@technipierreheritage.com; María-Inés Subercaseaux (Scientific Committees) Maria.Subercaseaux@pwgsc.gc.ca
- **COMMUNICATIONS** - François LeBlanc FLeBlanc@icomos.org - (613) 244-0519
- **CONSERVATION PRACTICE IN CANADA** – Tom Urbaniak (tom.urbaniak@cbu.ca); Madeleine Demers (mdemers@ncc-ccn.ca); John Ward (English) (John.Ward@pwgsc.gc.ca); Lyse Blanchet (lyse.blanchet@pwgsc.gc.ca)
- **COORDINATION** - Michel Bonnette - MichelBonnette@videotron.ca - (418) 380-8725
- **INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES DAY** - María-Inés Subercaseaux (Maria.Subercaseaux@pwgsc.gc.ca)
- **POST-CONGRESS TOURS** – Susan Bronson (susan.bronson@sympatico.ca) – (514) 849.9543; Jeannette Hlavach (plumhouse@telus.net); Bruno Bégin Bruno.Begin@hospitalite.com - (418) 522-8182 ext. 25
- **REGISTRATION** - Bruno Bégin Bruno.Begin@hospitalite.com - (418) 522-8182 ext. 25
- **SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION** - Laurier Turgeon Laurier.Turgeon@hst.ulaval.ca - (418) 656.2131, ext. 7200
- **TREASURER** - William Moss William.Moss@ville.quebec.qc.ca - (418) 641.6411, ext. 2149
- **YOUTH FORUM** - Marie-Josée Deschênes Marie-Josee.Deschenes@globetrotter.net - (418) 523-1550; Célia Forget celia.forget.1@ulaval.ca

For information concerning Quebec ICOMOS 2008 please visit regularly our web site at: http://quebec2008.icomos.org