

For Immediate Release July 11th, 2017

Grand-Pré 2017 Schedule Released Shuttle Service, Accommodations & Call for Volunteers

(Grand-Pré, NS) -- In roughly one month's time Grand-Pré National historic site will be transformed into a Mi'kmaq and Acadian celebration of peace and friendship. The site is fitting given the historical relationship between the Indigenous people of Mi'kma'ki and early French settlers as they were greeted over 400 years ago near the Unesco world heritage site.

"We are inviting everyone to revisit with us the beauty of our cultures and to celebrate our traditions". Event co-Chair AFN Regional Chief Morley Googoo for NS and NL said, adding, "Grand-Pré 2017 will be a premiere showcase of our visual and performing artists, our food, and our languages."

An extensive schedule featuring performers, film screenings, cultural artisans, a traditional PowWow, food vendors and presentations will take place from Aug. 10-13. The detailed schedule can be found on-line at <http://grandpre2017.ca/schedule/>. Featured aspects of the event are the Cultural Village presented by Scotiabank, Le Rendez-vous Acadian Tent Presented By: Acadian Seaplants, Cape-Breton University and Unama'ki College, the Gathering Circle and PowWow presented by CN, the Société Promotion Grand-Pré Presentations, a film screening of Zachary Richard, Cajun Heart by Phil Comeau and the incredible Main Stage entertainment line-up presented by BearHead LNG.

"We are really excited with the program we have developed for Grand-Pré 2017", said Ronald Bourgeois, Acadian Cultural Coordinator. "Visitors will experience the best of Acadian culture from our music, our visual arts to our craft sector. There is something for the whole family! On vous attend!" added Mr. Bourgeois.

A listing of vendors and exhibitors is available at <http://grandpre2017.ca/le-marche-market/>. Visitors to Le Marché - The Market presented by TD Bank can browse a broad selection of traditional Mi'kmaq and Acadian vendors.

CUISINE

Acadian and Mi'kmaq people are known for a variety of culinary specialties and Grand-Pré 2017 will have something on the menu for everyone! Culinary demonstrations by Kilted Chef Alain Bossé and Chef Ray Bear will showcase traditional favourites including their takes on everything from rappie pie to bannock. A selection of food vendors will also have select feature menu items available as well as regular festival fare. The culinary program is presented by Select Nova Scotia and Comeau Seafoods.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Grand-Pré 2017 will have a daily shuttle service Friday Aug. 11-13 – the Shuttle will leave Halifax – drop off at Grand-Pré National Historic Site. Once in the area the bus will shuttle throughout the day between Acadia University and the site. Parking at or near the site will be extremely limited and more available at the University Gym parking lot on Main St. in Wolfville.

10am – Pickup at Halifax Shopping Centre
10:30am – Pickup at MicMac Mall
11:15am – Arrive Windsor
12:10pm – Arrive Grand Pre
12:20pm – Arrive Acadia University

The return shuttle to Halifax will do a final drop off at Acadia at 9pm and return to Halifax arriving at or before 10:30 pm

Accommodations

While accommodations in the local area are becoming limited there is still availability, a complete listing of local hotels and camp grounds is available <http://grandpre2017.ca/hotel-and-travel/>.

Volunteering at Grand-Pré 2017

Organizers are also seeking volunteers for Grand-Pré 2017 for a wide variety of tasks including; demonstrator-vendor support, information desk, parking assistance, and general on-site ambassadors Grand-Pré 2017 is partnering with Events Nova Scotia where volunteers can create a profile at <http://eventsnovascotia.com/be-a-volunteer/> and indicate their preference. The volunteer program is presented by TD Bank.

Grand-Pré 2017 is made possible with support from our government partners ACOA, Canadian Heritage, Parks Canada, the Province of Nova Scotia Communities Culture and Heritage, and the Tripartite Forum

.

-30-

Contact:

AFN Regional Chief NS/NL Morley Googoo
Corinne MacLellan
Communications, Advisor
902 209 3234
corinne@groupatn.ca