

Press Release*For immediate release*

August 15th, 2017: A special day for the Acadian and French community of HRM

Dartmouth, 18th of August 2017 – The Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre (CCGH) is happy to share the success of the mobilisation and celebration that happened on the 15th of August 2017. Every year in the Nova-Scotian capital, the CCGH organizes free events for the public for National Acadian day.

The day started with a civil gathering and mobilisation at Grand Parade, Halifax. The CCGH's Administrative Council was represented by its Vice-President, Brenda Pickup and the organization's Executive Director, Lisa Michaud. They welcomed the various guests and speakers of stature such as: M. the mayor Mike Savage and the Honorable Lena Diab, Minister of French and Acadian Affairs whom proclaimed speeches on the history, culture and importance of Acadian people in Nova-Scotia. The Lieutenant Governor Arthur Leblanc and the M.P. Darren Fisher were also in attendance.

Mrs. Pickup then proceeded to raise the tri-coloured, star-adorned flag in front of a crowd of over 200 people while Courtlyn Arsenault sang the Acadian anthem, Ave Maris Stella, a capella.

This gathering was followed by a much-awaited vote from the Municipal Council on the status of Bloomfield¹. This property is one of the spots where a new francophone school for the Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial (CSAP), the provincial French school board. The Council unanimously voted in favor of offering the land to the Province. The Province has 120 days to decide whether it wants to buy the Bloomfield plot to then build k-12 school for the CSAP on said land.

The CCGH is prudent, yet hopeful regarding this new step in the right direction to solve the needs of the Acadian and French community for a school on the Halifax

¹ For more information on Bloomfield :

<https://www.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/regional-council/170815rc91.pdf>



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peninsula. Overcrowding due to having few French schools in the HRM area, would be alleviated with this addition.

The day ended in festivities with two free activities for the community, made possible by Canadian Heritage and Canada 150: a cocktail at the Central Library and a concert in the Paul O'Regan Hall. Over 350 spectators came to watch and listen to artists Céline et Danelle Doucet, Jacques Surette et Maxime et Gervais Cormier.

The CCGH is moved by the participation of so many from the HRM area for its 15th of August festivities. It is happy to see the community come together with such joy. 'It is promising to see the community participate in such great numbers during this important day in Acadian culture and history and the CCGH is grateful to those who came. I want to thank my team (Mario Noury & Mélodie Jacquot-Paratte) who work tirelessly to present cultural activities of quality and importance for the beautiful and vibrant Halifax community. Together we can help grow the feeling of togetherness and pride of the Acadian and French community in HRM.' expressed Lisa Michaud, ED of the CCGH.

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The CCGH is a non-for-profit organization that has operated in the HRM area, NS, since 1991. Its goals are to offer services, resources and activities to the Acadian, French and Francophile community of the area

Le Conseil communautaire du Grand-Havre est un organisme à but non-lucratif qui œuvre dans la région métropolitaine de Halifax, N-É, depuis 1991. Il a comme but d'offrir des services, ressources et activités à la communauté acadienne, francophone et francophile de la région.

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