



# THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

P.O. Box 493 Port Hope, Ontario, L1A 3Z4

2010-02 Winter Edition

Webpage: [www.apaontario.ca](http://www.apaontario.ca)

## SPRING EDITION

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 16, 2010

The weather in 2010 has allowed many of us to start our field season earlier than usual. This is, of course, a double-edged sword. Many of us enjoy the snow covered landscape which allows us to produce reports, plan for the field season, and even, have a brief respite. The early warm weather, even in the near North, has put us all into action a lot sooner

The Ministry of Tourism and Culture has not yet posted the revised "Standards and Guidelines for Consulting Archaeologists" and the APA has been invited to attend another meeting to discuss the S & G's, although no firm date has yet been provided for this meeting.

To bring the membership up to date, the APA provides a brief history of the APA Review of Standards and Guidelines.

At a 2006 Draft Standards and Guidelines release meeting in Toronto, APA President (Laurie Jackson) made a motion that the document be shelved pending proper consultation with First Nations and Developers.

Attending archaeologists carried this Motion and the document was shelved.

Between 2006 and 2009, numerous complaints were filed about the proposed document and the process which excluded primary stakeholders in discussion thereof.

March 2009, the Ministry of Culture agreed with the Association of Professional Archaeologists request to set up regional panels to review the document. A period of less than 6 months was allowed to do this, and requests for additional time to complete the regional panel meetings was refused. The OAS supported the Ministry position in refusing additional time. The panels carried out a rushed review, involving up to 50 licensed archaeologists, and results were prepared for the Ministry of Culture from each of the panels. An invitation to attend these regional panels was extended via email to all licensed and non-licensed archaeologists in the province, without regard to organization affiliation. The OAS was invited to co-host these regional sessions.

Of the 4 regional panels, Southwestern and Southcentral Ontario met with Ministry of Culture staff to discuss revisions. Eastern and Northern Ontario regional panels did not meet with the Ministry due to serious objections with the document.

The Northern Regional panel rejected the proposed Standards and Guidelines document in its entirety, advising that it does not apply in

either northern Ontario geography or spatial context. Several requests were made to the Ministry of Culture staff to meet with northern Ontario archaeologists. The Ministry of Culture would not travel to discuss non-compliance by the archaeologists working in Northern Ontario. APA offered to fly a northern representative down to Toronto to discuss the problems, but the Ministry of Culture agreed only on condition that revisions be brought to the meeting. Given that the entire document is inapplicable to Northern Ontario, the meeting was declined.

The APA has brought the problems of development project delays, First Nations concerns and Ministry of Culture downloading of responsibility for engagement/consultation, the lack of prosecution of offenders under the Ontario Heritage Act, and ongoing review mechanism for standards, to the attention of the opposition and the legislature.

An in-house study by the Ministry of Culture of cost impact was presented to a segment of the development industry. Representatives of the APA were invited to attend. Statistical and other problems were identified with this study. The APA recommended that an independent and impartial cost analysis be done. This has not been conducted to date. The APA will soon be releasing five cost impact studies by APA members.

In a letter to the Ministry of Culture, to Mr. Neil Downs (January 20, 2010), the following summary of the letter is presented below:

The APA believes that the 1993 Technical Guidelines are inadequate to ensure “good archaeology” in the Province of Ontario

The APA is looking forward to Standards and Technical Guidelines that can better ensure proper archival research, field methodologies and reporting, and analysis

The APA supports aboriginal engagement in Stage 3 and 4 archaeological assessments with safeguards and a contact structure in place

The APA offers a number of solutions to increasing the effectiveness of the report review process (pardoning/forgiving of reports older than 2008; streamline reports with no finds; checklists for reviewers to be shared with consultants).

The APA continues to offer its support to the Ministry of Culture in problems that will arise from the use of the 2010 Standards and Guidelines.

The APA continues to advocate for transparency with regards to the Standards and Guidelines, and would appreciate being allowed to review the S & G's prior to their posting.

## **OTHER NEWS**

APA was invited to attend the reception hosted by the Ontario Heritage Trust welcoming the new Minister of Tourism and Culture, the Hon. Michael Chan. We took this opportunity to voice numerous concerns.

The APA was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture to develop a First Nations liaison programmed with First Nations of Williams Treaty. The APA and many outstanding volunteers came together in March 2010 to hold a program at Curve Lake First Nation training a total of 15 liaison staff from Scoot, Beausoleil, Georgina, Alderville, Hiawatha, and Curve Lake. A second field component of this course will be initiated shortly.

The APA, in meetings with the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, has:

Ensured that when a report is received by the Ministry there is an email acknowledgement  
Ensured that there will be consultation with regards to the revision of archaeological licensing for underwater archaeological projects

Prompted the MoTC to further engage with First Nations on the Standards and Guidelines  
Prompted the MoTC to deal with the significant backlog of unreviewed reports. The APA applauds the recent efforts of the MoTC to deal with the backlog.

Asked that the MoTC provide a 48 hour turn around for site data requests\*

Asked that MoTC provide a list of archaeological master plans and developing master plans\*

Asked that MoTC provide an on-line PIF and Licence Application download on their website\*

Asked that MoTC consider deaccessioning of artifacts\*

Asked that MoTC track all archaeological projects and not just archaeological sites on a GIS\*\*

\*no action on the part of MoTC as yet

\*\*a project being developed by MoTC

The Minister's office has also informed APA that there are continuing discussions with First Nations in regards to Aboriginal engagement and other policy issues. Our own executive has been busy with another First Nations monitoring programme with the Williams Treaty First Nations groups. This continues to be a successful venue for the APA, and provides archaeologists with trained crew from First Nations, as well as archaeological monitors.

The Ministry of Tourism and Culture is also reviewing archaeological licences for marine projects. We have asked that the APA be consulted on these "new" licences and any other regulations pertaining to marine archaeological projects.

The APA is developing a five year plan to examine our role and future. If any of our membership would like to share their ideas/expectations for the APA, the executive would welcome input. In order for this organization to continue to grow and be strong, it is important that we hear from the membership. You are the reason for this organization, and your input is invaluable.

APA is planning a second GIS workshop in the late fall to be held by Dr. James Connolly. We also are hoping to conduct an archaeobotany 101 session with Rudy Fecteau sometime this year.

We welcome our honorary members from First Nations who join us this year:

Paul General, Manager Eco-Centre, Six Nations  
Doug Whitlow, Officer Eco-Centre, Six Nations  
Joanne Thomas, Land Use Officer, Six Nations

Doug Williams, Elder, Curve Lake & Trent University Native Studies Prof.

Arthor Otskinau, Park Warden & former APA Member

Anne Taylor, Cultural Archivist, Curve Lake  
Melissa Dokis, Lands & Resources, Curve Lake  
Krista Coppaway, Lands & Resources, Curve Lake

A change to our membership, now includes a Field Director category, and a corporate/institutional membership. The APA plans to develop this latter category into an area that the development/government community

can access to obtain information regarding the latest in archaeology, a list of our members, and FAQ.

So, our plates are full already – and the season is underway. Let the games begin!

Scarlett

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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## **FIRST NATIONS – LIAISON PROGRAMME CURVE LAKE**

"As part of its long term initiative to promote good communications between archaeologists and First Nations in Ontario, the APA and Curve Lake First Nation recently completed a one week training session for archaeological site liaison staff.

Between March 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 15 First Nations students were intensively trained in cultural sensitivity, archaeological methods and theory, and culture history. Teaching staff included First Nations elders and experts including Doug Williams, Mark Phillips, Arthor Otskinau and Ned Benson as well as

archaeologists Cathy Crinnion, James Conolly, Nick Gromoff, Michael Henry, Lawrence Jackson and Alastair Jolly.

The newly trained liaison staff will be available to work on archaeological projects within traditional Williams Treaty First Nations' territories. Please contact the APA directly if you are in need of a liaison staff person. We would like also to express our gratitude to Chief Keith Knott of Curve Lake First Nation for approving the involvement of Curve Lake First Nation as a partner with the APA and especially Anne Taylor, Cultural Archivist and Melissa Dokis and Krista Coppaway of the Duty to Consult programme for their efforts to organize and make this programme such a success. A number of First Nations people are now Associate members of the APA and we are looking forward to lots of positive engagement in future."

Lawrence Jackson  
Vice-President  
Curve Lake Attendees

