



ONslow CEMETERY COMPANY

Caring for the Onslow Island Cemetery. Established in 1763.

9 Main Street, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 4G4. Phone: 902-897-2625

E-Mail: info@onslowislandcemetery.ca

Newsletter – November 2016 edition 2015 and 2016 Highlights

Property Maintenance

During 2015 and 2016 Property Manager and Trustee Ron Hoyt organized a number of significant improvements in cemetery property:

- A shed repair was completed in 2015, largely with volunteer labor donated by Trustee Bruce Curry, at a cost of \$1556.43 for the materials.
- In 2016 work was completed to prevent cars driving over graves and to better control traffic in the cemetery. Roads were repaired and graveled, a culvert was repaired, space was cleared for a parking lot and signage erected at a cost of \$4481.04.
- During 2015 and 2016, services for lawn care were contracted only during July and August at considerable cost savings. Ron Hoyt and a few volunteer Trustees looked after all the mowing during May, June, September and October. During 2015 contracted mows cost \$1750.00 at \$250, 00 per mow (it was a rainy summer); 2016 mows cost \$1000.00 (we had a dry summer). Costs to contract mow the full season, with 20 potential mows (4 per month for 5 months) would cost \$5000.00.



An enlarged parking area

Record Maintenance

Property Manager Ron Hoyt and Secretary Treasurer Marie McCully Collier work together to document and maintain important historical records of the Cemetery. Records of lots sold and burials carried out are documented on paper back to 1876. Ideally, to guard against loss, these records should also be saved on a computer. Company minutes date back to 1903. Five of the oldest gravestones in the Cemetery date back to 1791.

The Cemetery website has been helpful to many individuals and families researching their history. The Secretary Treasurer regularly receives email requests for information. Frequently, the cemetery records on hand are helpful, or they are advised to contact the Colchester Historeum for further information.

Notably, in 2015, work was completed to repair and preserve the original survey map of the cemetery drawn up by Edmund Archibald in 1898, at a cost of \$457.19. Copies may now be made of the map and a digitalized copy is on the Cemetery website.



Roads repaired

Lots sold

One lot is currently priced at \$400.00. One lot was sold 2015. To date, two lots have been sold in 2016.

Burials

Five burials were carried out (all cremations) in 2015. To date, four burials have been carried out in 2016.

2015 Year End Finance Report

Auditors Clark Woods and Rod Nelson reviewed the accounts maintained by Treasurer Marie McCully Collier and found them detailed, accurate and clear. In summary:

Income - \$8,725.23 (Donations plus Investment income \$1,156.28 (including \$448.91 from Perpetual Care) plus lot sales \$400.00. and a GST rebate of 193.95).

Expenditures - \$6,382.88 (Property maintenance \$4661.18 plus office operations \$1,321.80) plus Invested \$400.00 to Perpetual Care).

Assets - \$75,976.15 (cash & deposits \$18,950.79 plus Investments \$60,172.78)

Liabilities - \$00.00

2016 Projected Budget

The budget includes \$5,950.00 for lawn care and general maintenance, road repairs and equipment repairs and \$725.00 for general operations including postage, bank charges and website. We expect to end the year without a deficit.

Donations

In 2015, \$6975.05 in donations were gratefully received including donations in memory of Charles and Leta Hill, Samuel Little and Paulette MacDonald. To date, in 2016, donations total \$1570.00.

Donations not required to cover annual expenses are carefully invested to provide some annual income and to build a principal

account that will support the Cemetery in the years to come. Although the Company may appear somewhat wealthy at this time, total assets are down and the current income from investments does not cover annual expenses. Your ongoing donations are needed and appreciated.

The address to send donations is:

Onslow Cemetery Company
c/o Marie McCully Collier
9 Main Street
Truro, NS B2N 4G4

Business Management

The following **Board of Trustees** was elected at the April 2016 Annual General Meeting:

- Carol Blois, President
- Gloria Smith, Vice President**
- Marie McCully Collier, Secretary Treasurer
- Ron Hoyt, Property Manager
- Bruce Curry
- Wade Dickie
- Kirby Smith
- Rod Nelson
- Bonnie Waddell
- Clark Woods

The Board met three times during 2015 and three times during 2016 as required by the Company By Laws.

**Sadly, Vice President Gloria Smith passed away on November 16, 2016. Gloria was approaching her fifth year on the Board. We will very much miss her presence and support at the Board table.

By Laws, drafted by the Trustees, were approved by Members at the Annual General Meeting held on April 8, 2015. Updated **Policies and Procedures** were also presented and approved. The current Act of Incorporation, the By Laws and the Policies and Procedures are posted on the Company website at www.onslowislandcemetery.ca Please browse this site and view the updates. They are listed there under "Governance & Policies". Members who are unable to access the internet may request copies from the Secretary Treasurer.

Members of the Company

Current By Laws require the Secretary Treasurer to maintain a Registry of Members. Eligibility for membership has been expanded to include individuals who are not lot holders, but wish to support the Cemetery.

Why register? You will be able to vote at any Annual or Special Meeting of the Company and receive regular communications about the activities of the Company – **such as this newsletter.**

About the Newsletter

Last year, a newsletter was mailed to 91 lot owners and friends of the Company (69 were posted and 22 were emailed.) with an invitation to join the Company as a Registered Member. To date, 48 individuals have submitted their registration forms. Thank you! This helps us create and maintain an accurate Member Registry and mailing list.

Can't find your name on Member list?

That is because we did not receive your membership registration form – that was sent last year to all potential members on our mailing list.

This year, we are sending the newsletter only to people on the Member Registry; to a few potential members we expected to hear from last year and new lot holders.

We are also asking everyone, who can, to provide us with an email address.

😊 You are invited 😊

Come and meet us at the **2017 Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Wednesday April 5, 2017, 7:00 pm** at the Trinity United Church Parlour. Onslow, Nova Scotia.

Members of the Company

Carol Blois	Bruce Langille
Lawrence W. Baird	Shirley Lorraine
Rod Blois	Ethel Lewis
Thane Blois	Joyce Lynds
Donald Brenton	Donna I. MacNeill
Elfriede Budgey	Cyathia Matthews
Richard Carpenter	Margaret McCain
Patricia Crowe	Kim D. McCallum
Bruce M. Curry	Marie McCully Collier
McCusker "Ted" Curry	Bill McCully
Judith DeVouge	Ron McCully
Wade Dickie	Sandra McNutt
Roy Fancy	Brent Nelson
Allison (Allie) Groves	Rod Nelson
Donald Groves	George Norrie
Lloyd Groves	Rod Norrie
Sherry Groves	Audrey Organ
Darcie Hatt	Howard Parsons
James Henderson	Prescott (Sonny) Patton
Arthur Hill	George Arthur Pratt
George Hill	Evelyn Raspberry
Ronald Hoyt	Kirby Smith
Christine King	S. Clark Woods
J. Shelly King	Bonnie R. Waddell

Help!

Do you have some time to volunteer?

The Trustees need some help with mowing in the spring and fall months. A spring clean-up is always done in the Cemetery on a weekend before Mother's Day. Extra hands that day are always appreciated.

There is an ongoing need to replace retiring Trustees on the Board.

Could you donate some computer expertise to help computerize some important files?

Interested in history? Genealogy? Could you help us learn how we might do more to support individuals and families with their research?

If you have any suggestions or would like to help, contact any one of the Company Trustees or email us at:

info@onslowislandcemetery.ca