

**Association du  
patrimoine de Potton**

[www.patrimoinepotton.org](http://www.patrimoinepotton.org)  
[info@patrimoinepotton.org](mailto:info@patrimoinepotton.org)

DEPUIS 1990



**Potton Heritage  
Association**

[www.pottonheritage.org](http://www.pottonheritage.org)  
[info@pottonheritage.org](mailto:info@pottonheritage.org)

SINCE 1990

## A LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone,

The time has come to share the state of the Webmaster's soul with you – that is to say, the soul that is so closely attuned to his computer! A daily routine is necessary to oversee the general health of our website! Is everything functioning properly on each of the web versions, French and English? Is each still healthy? Updated and secure? He takes their virtual temperatures, monitoring for viruses and infections.

This chore has a pleasant upside however. Each day I rediscover an important element of our heritage!

For seven years now, since 2010, Internet visitors come to our virtual door, thanks to our distinctive logo, designed by Catherine Arcouette in the early 1990's. Not only does our logo identify us, but another has found its place in our digital world and has come to characterize us on the Web, and this is, of course, the Round Barn of Mansonville. This grand old building has been much photographed and has earned distinction amongst the place names of Potton:

**LA PLACE DE LA GRANGE-RONDE.**



The conservation of the Round Barn has preoccupied our Association for years. To celebrate the building's centennial, we thoroughly cleaned the place to hold thematic exhibitions during the summer season.



However, with each passing year the building deteriorates almost imperceptibly, but the cumulative has taken its toll. We were obliged to house our exhibition this summer in the Anglican Church hall, because public access to the Round Barn was, and remains prohibited until such time as some restoration works have been undertaken and the foundation renewed, at a minimum. This will be no minor undertaking.

Our colleagues of the GBMP (Groupe bénévole municipal de Potton) have calculated the costs implicated as close to \$400,000.

DETAILED COSTING OF WORKS REQUIRED	Amount (\$)
<b>Renewal of foundation and straightening of building</b>	150,000
<b>Roof Renewal</b>	125,000
<b>Repair of window and door openings</b>	30,000
<b>Strengthening of floors</b>	25,000
<b>Unforeseen expense</b>	50,000
<b>Taxes applicable</b>	19,000
<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>399,000</b>

The GBMP tells us that nearly \$150,000 has been obtained from public and private funding since the first financial campaign was undertaken 4 years ago. Furthermore, two other funding requests are almost ready for presentation to public organizations for a total of \$250,000. Additionally, a renewed fundraising campaign, with a \$40,000 goal has already begun.

The [minutes](#) of the Association's 23rd Annual General Meeting, held on March 24, 2013 show the adoption of the following resolution in support of the financial campaign for the Round Barn of Mansonville. *The Board of Directors of Potton Heritage Association therefore urges :*

- **each member of the Association to subscribe personally to the financial campaign for the Round Barn and to invite the active participation of family and friends in this collective effort, since our objective over five years, is to gather the sum of \$100,000;**
- **that the Board of Directors regularly update the Association members of the evolution of the fundraising campaign in collaboration with the GBMP.**

This resolution was adopted unanimously and reflects our commitment to conserving this jewel of our local heritage. The financial records of the Association reveal that at least \$10,000 was given to the Fonds de la grange ronde. Furthermore, the records for the financial campaign begun in 2013 indicate that an amount approaching \$36,000 came from members of the Association. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for that contribution. But, we will have to redouble our efforts if we are to respect and achieve the goal we set for ourselves in 2013. I therefore encourage you to respond generously to the [new financial campaign](#). [Click here for the donation form](#).

You probably saw me in the parade at the Multicultural Festival aboard the Lady of the Lake, with the lovely ladies in period costume! We are grateful for the partnership with the Municipality of the Township of Potton, wherein we were awarded financial support from Community Foundations of Canada to celebrate CANADA 150 in our community. I must tell you that over 1,030 volunteer hours went into the production of our exhibition and to produce the brochure which accompanied [Tourism in Potton at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century](#). My heartfelt thanks go to all the volunteers who welcomed visitors to our exhibition and all who helped with the preparation of our float in the parade. I think our efforts were well received and appreciated.



Finally, if you were not able to visit the exhibition this summer, it is not too late. We are bringing it to the [Autumnfest Outdoor Festival](#) which will be held at Owl's Head on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> of September as well October 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>. It will be set up in the Chalet for many more to enjoy.

Coming to see the exhibition is the perfect occasion for you to taste the offerings at our Canteen, operated jointly with the Ken Jones Centre. Furthermore, the [Culture Days | Journées de la culture](#) will be held on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and on October 1<sup>st</sup>. A varied and interesting programme has been planned. You are cordially invited to attend the presentation of the prizes for Culture and for Heritage, which will honor two members of our Association!

As I write this letter, a new brochure has gone to press and will soon be added to our collection available in the Tourist Office and on our [web site](#).



And now, before I end this letter, allow me to don my Treasurer's cap, to remind you that I am ready to receive 2017 membership fees from those... late payers... who have simply forgotten!

I look forward to seeing you again soon. Long live the Potton Heritage Association!

**Serge Normand**

Vice President, Treasurer and Webmaster

Many thanks to our President Sandra Jewett for the English translation.