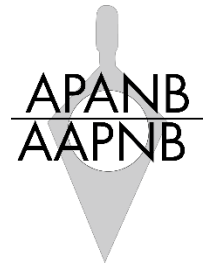


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July 25, 2018

The APANB-AAPNB, our Board of Directors, and Membership are committed to promoting the protection of heritage in New Brunswick, and to encouraging best practices and adherence to archaeological regulations and legislation. In recent weeks, the Board has had several discussions about media reports regarding proposed developments and ongoing work in the Officers' Square area of downtown Fredericton.

Limited information is available to the Board regarding the recommendations for and permitting of archaeological work currently being conducted at Officers' Square. Thus, it is not appropriate at this time for the APANB-AAPNB to speculate about the suitability of the management plan or archaeological work being conducted as part of the project.

Archaeological assessment is an exercise in compromise and a cautious and measured approach should be encouraged. For situations where multiple overlapping regulations and jurisdictions are involved, a harmonized process has not yet been developed that clearly dictates practice. The Heritage Conservation Act and its enforcement should offer protection to archaeological resources under threat.

With this in mind, the APANB-AAPNB encourages transparent sharing of information and concerns surrounding the Officers' Square project, motivated by concern for preserving New Brunswick's archaeological legacy.

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