

# **INDIGENOUS ARCHAEOLOGIST & OBSERVER REPORT**

**WEEK 1 (OCTOBER 7 – OCTOBER 9, 2015)**

**NOTE:**

This was a partial week with mobilization in the field for all workers beginning on Wednesday, October 7. Three Observers were in training and, as such, this report contains finding from the Indigenous Archaeologist and Three Observers.

## **TCPL Archaeology Program - Indigenous Archaeologist Report**

### **Week 1**

The first week went well. In terms of ceremony, since we are only doing testing and not an actual excavation, I felt there was no need for a big ceremony. If we find anything of significance we will do more of a ceremony to honour the ancestors. I am not pressuring anyone to do anything they feel uncomfortable with; it is up to the individual to participate. Each morning before we leave the hotel parking lot, we gather in a circle to smudge then make a tobacco offering for guidance.

We have paired up with those with little experience with those with more experience; it seems to be working well. We are also encouraging to keep switching up; it helps for everyone to get to know each other better.

During the shovel testing this week we have found a lot of recent historical material. Many on the crew have felt it is also exciting to find these items. They are open to learning and encouraging me to share my knowledge of archaeology. We are understood that this is a new way of conducting an archaeology program. Many of them have stated to me that they would like to continue in this field of study, I had already been working on developing an Archaeology Coop program at UNB and have been invited to assist with a field technician program with NBCC. This is very encouraging, especially with the news of an upcoming Knowledge Centre. It is important to consider the capacity building before actually having a building; we would not want to see the cart before the horse, so to speak. It would be significant to have our own facilitators, archaeologists, curators for collections management, etc. There are many aspects to take into consideration as well as how we want to present ourselves as aboriginal people to the rest of the public. Personally, I would have chosen outreach centres in each of the communities that way we are distributing information with each community instead of centralizing, not one community would hold all the information. It could also serve as a centre for distributing information to community members for past, present and future resource projects.

To get back on reporting task, in total 77 test pits were completed. The materials that were revealed were from the homestead and ploughed field were multiple variations of glass, different forms of metals, ceramics, pipe stem and bowl fragment, and belt buckle.

**RAMONA NICHOLAS, INDIGENOUS ARCHEOLOGIST**

**Report Completed by: Lyle Vicaire, Observer**

**Dates Covered by Report:**

October 6 – October 9, 2015

**Location(s) of Work:**

Saint John Marine Terminal, Chateau Hotel Saint John.

**Activities Undertaken:**

Trans Canada, Stantec & Green Eagle personnel meeting at Chateau Hotel Saint John about proposed TCPL project. Followed by site visit for a training session on how to properly dig test pits.

Wednesday to Friday involved full day test pitting. GE debrief meeting Wednesday evening and another debrief meeting at Stantec office Friday afternoon.

**Results:**

77 total test pits complete by all field crew. 10 Historic pieces found. 20 artifacts in total found by test pits I was involved in.

**Field Team Participants:**

Green Eagle & Stantec employees

**Interests and Potential Concerns from a First Nation Perspective:**

Initial observation of land can safely assume a use by Indigenous people many years ago, however a pre-contact artifact may be difficult to find since land has been used many times over.

**Name: Gordon Grey, Observer**

**Dates Covered by the Report:**

October 7 - October 9th, 2015

**Location of field activities:**

Marine terminal complex, TCD – ARCH – 470 and TCD – ARCH – 469

**Results of work completed:**

Day 1 (Wednesday) - 15 total test pits dug, 11 finished and re-filled, 1 left for the geologist

Day 2 (Thursday) - 35 total test pits dug and reported

Day 3 (Friday) - 27 total test pits dug and reported

**Heritage resources identified:**

Porcelain pottery, square nails, glass, and a pipe stem.

Incidental observations:

N/A

**Observer comments:**

Week went pretty well. Learned what to look for, in particular the historical artifacts such as porcelain, nails, glass and pipe pieces. Also found 3 “love stones”, called such because they are just rocks that would love to be something (look like a projectile point).

Worked almost exclusively with Megan Totten. She is a good worker and keeps a steady pace. Today we cleared 5 pits together, so we are picking up the tempo as I learn what to look for.

Week went well and the crew all seem to be getting along, and there are few stragglers that I notice at least. Will work with someone else next week, but I enjoyed doing test pits with Megan. Location of field activities.

## **Report Completed by: Deborah Bear, Observer**

### **Date:**

October 7 -9, 2015

### **Location of Field Activities:**

Canaport, polygon# TCDARCH470

### **Work Completed (e.g., archaeological assessment, flagging shovel testing):**

Shovel test pit 40S 75W

Shovel test pit 60S 95W

Shovel test pit 80S 105W

Shovel test pit 110S 105W

Shovel test pit 120S 135W

Results of work completed:

Standard pit size 50 cm<sup>2</sup>

### **Heritage Resources Identified:**

Historical pottery/ceramic

glass(clear, green)

square nail

brick

### **Incidental Observations (e.g., wildlife, significant plants/trees, hazard recognition):**

Very damp pits could be due to the barometric pressure.

### **First Nation Observer and/or Archaeologist Comments:**

We had a smudge and prayer early morning before driving out to Canaport. I really appreciated that.