



THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

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

2011-02 Summer Edition

**Webpage: www.apaontario.ca
SUMMER EDITION**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Standards and Guidelines have their pros and their cons. Some would say it is weighted more in the negative than in the positive. From the feedback that the APA is receiving from its members, the heavier side is definitely negative. The interpretation of the S & Gs appears to be strictly from the viewpoint of the MTC, which raises the question again of why proper consultation with the stakeholders (consulting archaeologists) is not being done by the MTC. The way in which our reports are reviewed is, simply stated, abysmal.

I caution those who are weak of spirit or mind, not to read further. In my mind, the way in which the Ministry of Tourism and Culture is conducting business as it pertains to consulting archaeologists will shortly drive Ontario archaeology into an chasm out of which it will take years to climb. They have not advanced archaeology, but set it back to a degree where many of us will not see a positive outcome before we either retire or die. All the back slapping of congratulations and boy, now we can control those unruly archaeologists, on the part of some Ministry staff, are misplaced, and incredibly disheartening for those of us in the business.

I remind our membership that the APA executive was opposed to the launch of these S & Gs. They were NOT acceptable to APA. There is no dispute that new Standards and Guidelines are necessary, and many of the standards are sound. However,

there remain many parts of the S & G's that are, and were obviously still flawed prior to their release. Despite our being very vocal about the existing difficulties with the S & Gs, we were invited to a stakeholders meeting by the MTC, where we were told the S & G's were going to be implemented and no further discussion or consideration of our concerns was going to be conducted. This was, in fact, a final pre-release *fait accompli* disguised as a "stakeholder" meeting.

Archaeological consultants have been incredibly frustrated by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's review of reports vis-a-vis the 2011 Standards and Guidelines. I have no doubt that many of the MTC reviewers are equally frustrated, but that there are staff within the MTC who blindly accept these S & Gs as the new testament, or the holy grail of Ontario archaeology.

MTC has asked three companies, (names provided by Mr. Sherratt of MTC), Archaeological Services Inc., Golder Associates, and Timmins Martelle to bid on the development of a model report (not a template). The monies being spent on this process would be better applied to holding a public meeting and receiving input from the archaeological community. We have been advised by Mr. Sherratt that MTC does not have to engage in an open bidding process where the contract is under \$100,000.00.

Despite the fact that APA encouraged our members to pilot the S & Gs on behalf of the MTC, our members were shut out of the bidding competition for the model report. Please see below Mr. Sherratt's response to APA's questions regarding this process. Regardless of the process, that fact remains, that all companies are receiving the same

type of review letters from MTC, with sometimes as many as 20 requested revisions: What then makes any company more knowledgeable about preparing a report? It seems to me that the Ministry is simply subsidizing whoever gets the job to get their own reports correct. I'd like that job too! Paid to figure out how to write a report that the MTC will accept without comment? Not bad!

What will happen to our reports that we have spent time and money on to develop in the absence of promises made to the APA with respect to having templates provided prior to the release of the S & Gs? See Mr. Sherratt's responses to these questions below.

We have recently sent out a two question inquiry to our members rating their satisfaction with the S & Gs and with the review process. Sadly, many members have not received a report back yet with comments from the MTC, but will be in for a rude surprise when it happens. One of the APA executive members has aptly coined the review process as the "theatre of the absurd". Here, here!

Copy editing appears to be the sole role of the reviewers. God forbid you forget to put an uppercase letter on a figure heading, or note ¼" mesh screen as opposed to 6 mm (by the way – it is still sold as ¼" screen, not 6 mm mesh). I don't have any problem with metric, but if one were to put some thought into this, as archaeologists we are dealing with historic (and prehistoric) sites. Those individuals of the past did not work or live in metric, and their measurements were based in feet and inches, and in some cases 10" to a foot. Would it not make more sense to conduct our measurements in the same measurements of the time?? And I love having to change acres to hectares. It certainly helps to bulk up a report (1 acre = 0.404685642 hec). If anyone is familiar with geography and the lessons we had in high school and university, all maps, unless otherwise indicated, have north at the top. Need I say more? And, why do I need to put my illustrations and maps at the back of my report. Literary form includes citing a map/figure in the report, and it

following on the next page. And the basis of 20 pre-1900 artifacts on a site requiring the site to go to a Stage 3. I could break a plate and get 20 pieces, and are staff at the Ministry not familiar with depositional lag? These Standards and Guidelines were supposed to let us use our professional judgement, but instead have become prescriptive in the extreme. I could go on, and on with examples from my own review letters and from those sent to us as examples of the maddening world of new age archaeology.

The S & Gs are full of contradictory statements. When challenged, MTC holds some special in house meeting (without involving the complainant), and resolve to change the S & Gs to suit their narrow minded views – but don't inform the body of consulting archaeologists of the changes. This was an experience that I had personally, where there were opposing "standards" within the S & G document. What happened to consultation? What happened to sharing of information? For that matter, what happened to common sense???

Copy your review letters from the MTC, copy your response to the MTC, because we did not adhere to the "suggested" format of a report, etc., and send them to your MPP. Consider going to a lawyer – have your clients challenge the absolute absurdity of the MTC.

And APA members, I love hearing from you all and I hope you will keep calling me, emailing, and writing. Don't think you are alone!! Please follow my suggestion and start a file to submit to your MPP. Have your clients write letters of complaint. Answer the questionnaire we will be sending out to you shortly. The only way that we are going to be able to come out of this mire of muck, deception, and ego is to be extremely vocal.

MTC has created a nightmare for us and for themselves. Shame on MTC!!! But, shame on all of us if we continue to sit back and let it happen!

Scarlett Janusas

Questions to Mariflor Toneatto, replies from Mr. Jim Sherratt (MTC).

Will the templates that archaeologists have already developed still be accepted in as long as they follow the S & Gs?

The model reports being developed are not templates. They are guidance documents that are intended to provide licensees with examples of reports that meet MTC requirements based on the 2011 Standards and Guidelines for consultant archaeologists. Templates developed by archaeologists would still be accepted in as long as they follow the S & Gs, including Table 7.1. Your email indicates that Table 7.1 is a suggested format only. We would clarify that Standard 1 in Section 7.5 reads that "all project reports must contain the sections listed in the first column of Table 7.1." However, there is also a guideline that the order of the sections may vary from that listed in Table 7.1, provided that the report contains all the required sections. The flexibility is in the order of presentation.

Were any of the Prospective Bidders APA members?

Membership in a specific professional organization was not a criteria in the selection of bidders. However (as you know), as a licensed archaeologist, membership in a professional association with a code of ethics is a requirement.

Was there a general request for proposals sent out, and if so, by what mechanism?

The ministry did not send out a request for proposals. The OPS procurement directive requires ministries to use an open competitive procurement process (e.g. RFP) for Consulting Services valued at \$100,000 or more. For smaller projects, such as this one, ministries may use an invitational competitive procurement process. An invitational competitive procurement is achieved by requesting a minimum of three qualified vendors to submit a

written proposal. As such we issued an invitation to quote to three prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders were identified after careful consideration of a variety of factors. MTC staff followed OPS standards for procurement and consideration was given to factors including, but not limited to, capacity to complete the assignment, history of applying the S&Gs as best practice and past experience with government projects.

The invitations to quote were sent to the bidders via email.

Please identify the bidders?

The bidders selected were from three firms: Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants (southwest), Golder Associates (east) and Archaeological Services Inc. (central).

We also appreciate your offer to comment on the model reports. There may be opportunities for input from the APA, OAS and licensees. However, MTC will make the final decision on the products. I hope this addresses your concerns.

Jim Sherratt

Williams Treaty and APA Celebrate Training Success

On Wednesday July 27, 2011, Alderville First Nation hosted a graduation ceremony for eight Williams Treaty trainees in our archaeology liaison program. With volunteer field instructors from the APA, including James Conolly, Lawrence Jackson, Margie Kennedy, Alastair Jolly, Janet Batchelor and Jeff Dillane, the eight students completed an intensive six week course in archaeological field techniques. Instruction took place on sites near Curve Lake, Alderville First Nation and the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority.

The graduation ceremony at Alderville was attended by Chief James Marsden, Councillor Monague of Beausoleil First Nation, councillors from Alderville First Nation, Interim Treaty Negotiator Karry Sandy, consultation co-ordinators from all of the Williams Treaty First Nations, Northumberland MPP Lou Rinaldi, the Anishnawbek News and Northumberland News. Also attending were Ashley Johnson and Sarah Dedecker of the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Sean Ross of the Ministry of Transportation. Following a traditional prayer of welcome from Councillor Wes Marsden, Chief James Marsden expressed his pleasure at the accomplishment of the students, a sentiment echoed by Dave Simpson, Alderville Consultation Co-ordinator and by Lou Rinaldi, MPP. Each student also spoke of their experience and what it meant to them. Certificates of training were presented to each student and a card issued identifying them as official First Nation liaisons for their respective communities.

A delicious lunch followed at the Alderville Learning Center. Placement of the eight students on archaeological projects has already begun. First contact by archaeologists should be with individual First Nations but APA can assist you in contacting a liaison for your project once this is done.



2011 Graduating Class and Instructors, Alderville First Nation Ceremony.

APA QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM & CULTURE

This questionnaire is to determine the types and extent of issues concerning the implementation of the new Standards and Guidelines (2010) by the Ministry of Tourism & Culture’s (MTC’s) review staff. The APA is using this questionnaire to build a data set of issues commonly occurring with MTC. This will not only be useful to bring to MTC’s attention, but also provide a “these are the 10, 20 to 30+ most commonly ‘gottcha’ issues” that MTC is raising with the consultants with our members.

1) Substantive comments by MTC – have you had any methodological/recommendations questions raised by the staff?

Stage _____

Region _____

S&G not met or questioned by MTC staff _____

Please cite as many examples as you have had recently. Continue using as much space as necessary.

2) Delays in completion of reviews due to copy editing issues.

Stage _____

Region _____

Expedited or Regular back-log (ie the new backlog) _____

Basis: (ie images section; missing information etc.) _____

Specific S&G standard identified in report as not b e i n g m e t :

Please cite as many examples as you have had recently. Continue using as much space as necessary.

3) How much time and extra expense are you having to spend due to MTC's requests to send in three more copies of the reports?

4) How has this affected the client's construction/work schedule?

5) Positive experiences with MTC?

6) Other issues with MTC?

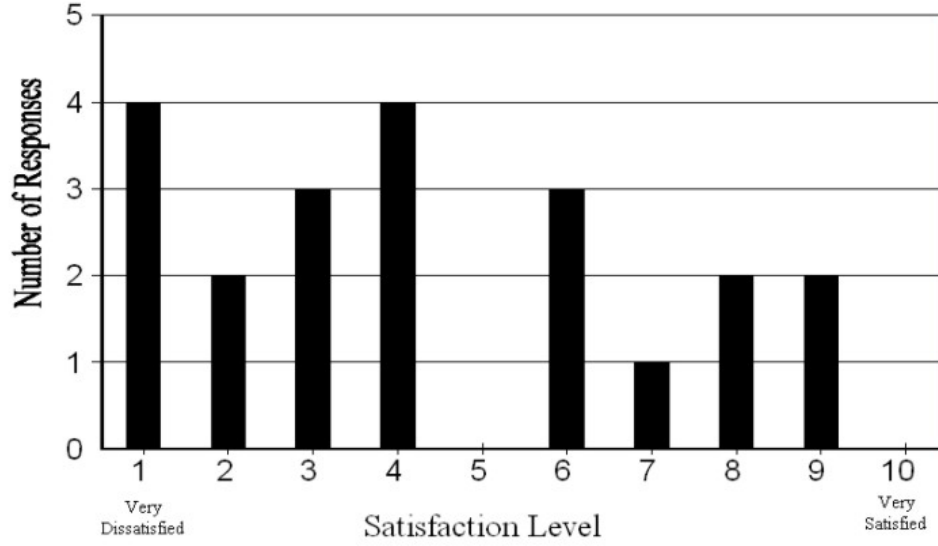
SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

1. How satisfied are you with using the New Standards and Guidelines in the field?

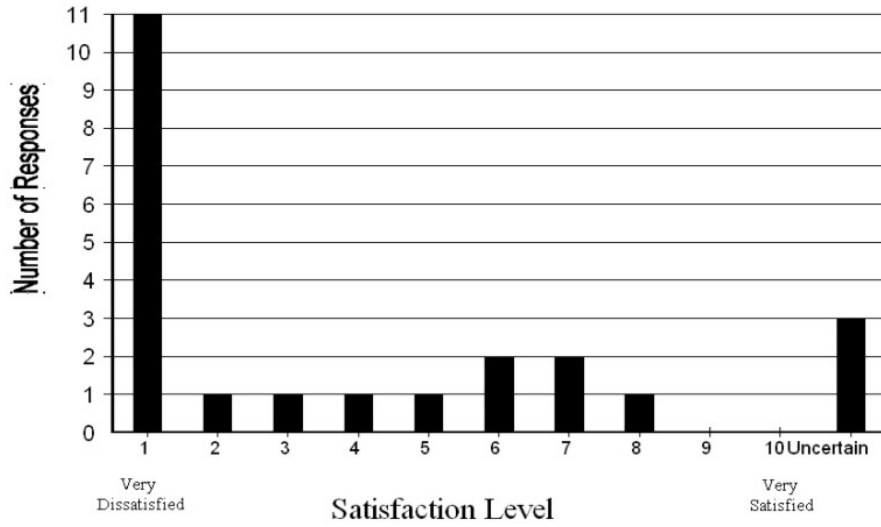
In total 21 people answered this question 13 had a less than satisfied view of the new S&G in the field and 8 were more than satisfied.

2. How satisfied are you with the Review Process for reports conducted under the New Standards and Guidelines?

This question produced an almost universally negative response. In total, 21 people answered this question. Three respondents felt they could not answer because as of the survey they had not had any reports reviewed. These people are noted as uncertain. One respondent provided three answers depending on which region was doing the reviewing.



Graph for Question 1.



Graph for Question 2.

HUMOUR

Since we really need some these days!

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, British scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 200 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 150 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Brits, in the weeks that followed, an American archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story published in the New York Times:

"American archaeologists, finding traces of 250-year-old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network 50 years earlier than the British".

One week later, the Canadian Department of Mines and Resources in Northern Canada reported the following:

"After digging as deep as 30 feet in Northern Canada in the Ontario region of Thunder Bay, Jack most universal negative response. In total 21 Lucknow, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely f* all.

Jack has therefore concluded that 250 years ago, Canada had already gone wireless."

Just makes you bloody proud to be Canadian, eh!

BOOK SECTION



Collections And Objections – Aboriginal Material Culture in Southern Ontario, 1791-1914

By: Michelle A. Hamilton – Assistant Professor and director of public history at the University of Western Ontario.

ISBN: 978-0-7735-3755-2 (paper)

Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press (www.mqup.ca)

Back page: "Providing a comprehensive overview of anthropological collecting in Ontario between 1791 and 1914, *Collections and Objections* details the complicated relationships between Euro-Canadian and Native cultures, the numerous ways in which Aboriginal objects were acquired, and the

motives behind their collection. The concluding chapter connects historical practices of collecting to present-day debates over the stewardship of Aboriginal material culture in Canada and the United States.

A remarkable look at the relationships between the public, historical societies, governments, professional anthropologists, and various Native communities, *Collections and Objections* explores the legacy of interest in Aboriginal heritage”.

CONFERENCES

1) **September 17th, 2011 10 am**

Kingston Frontenac Public Library, Wilson Room, 130 Johnson Street, Kingston

150 Years of the Railroad. The building of the Grand Trunk Railway and its joining with CNR. Speaker: William Boulton

Contact: www.ogs.on.ca/kingston

2) **September 20th, 2011 7:30 pm**, Norfolk County Branch, OGS

Delhi Seniors Centre, 418 Queen Street, Delhi,

Black History of Simcoe and Norfolk County

Speaker: Scott Gillies, Curator Eva Brook Donly Museum, Simcoe, ON

Contact: www.ogs.on.ca/norfolk

3) **Wednesday, October 5th, 2011 7:30 pm** Huron County Branch OGS

Huron County Museum, 110 North Street,

Goderich

*Dams along the Maitland 76 19th century
Dams along the Maitland River Watershed*

Speaker: John Hazlitt

Contact:

<http://www.hurontel.on.ca/~ogshuron/>

4) **October 11th, 2011 7:15 pm**

York Region Branch OGS

Newmarket Public Library, 438 Park Ave

History of Newmarket

Speaker: Wes Playter, Newmarket Historical Society

Contact: www.rootseb.com/~onrbogs

5) **Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA)**

2011 Conference, October 21 – 23, Utica, NY

In addition to the conference, CNEHA regularly hosts workshops and field trips.

Fieldtrip 1) Oneida Community Mansion House and Shako:Wi, the Oneida Indian Cultural Centre

Fieldtrip 2) Fort Stanwix National Monument: Fort Stanwix, a site where treaties were signed by Six Nations of the Iroquois and the British. Tour also includes Marinus Willit Collections Management and Education Center.

Fieldtrip 3) Coopertown – Farmers Museum and Fenimore Art Museum, Belgian Brewery

Ommegang, and National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Workshops may include: bioarchaeology, museum collections management, archaeology and public engagement using video documentation. Workshops to be finalized.

Conference website:

<http://www.utica.edu/cneha2011>

BUSINESS CORNER

Volunteerism

We are sometimes lucky enough to have extra willing hands on sites or in our labs, etc, who want no remuneration. However, do you know what is still expected of you as a company, employer??

What rights and responsibilities do volunteers and their organizations have?

Volunteers are not covered by the Employment Standards Act, 2000. Under the Workplace Safety & Insurance Act, 1997, some types of volunteers are covered such as volunteer firefighters, but volunteers in most workplaces are not covered. Under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, a worker is defined in part of being “a person who performs work or supplies services for monetary compensation.” This definition **does not** include volunteers. However, employers still have some responsibility for the health and safety of people visiting or helping out in their workplaces.

“wages” mean,

- (a) Monetary remuneration payable by an employer to an employee under the terms of an employment contract, oral or written, express or implied,
- (b) Any payment required to be made by an employers to an employee under this ACT, and
- (c) Any allowances for room and board under an employment contract or prescribed allowances,

But does not include

- (d) Tips and other gratuities;
- (e) Any sums paid as gifts or bonuses that are dependent on the discretion of the employer and that are not related to hours, production or efficiency;
- (f) Expenses and travelling allowances, or
- (g) Subject to subsections 60 (3) or 62 (2), employer contributions to a benefit plan and payments to which an employee is entitled from a benefit plan;

Individuals should visit the Employment Standards Act for a full description of volunteerism.

WORK HAZARDS – SAFETY ALERT FOR FIELD CREWS!!

1) **Giant Hogweed** is a toxic plant (invasive species) that can burn and cause permanent blindness. Field crews must be vigilant with respect to this plant. It is a health hazard. The Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) has already issued warnings to residents to be on the lookout.



Originally from Asia, Giant Hogweed can grow 15 to 20 feet (4.5 to 6 metres) in height. Its leaves are nearly 5 feet (1.5 metres) wide and feature hairs on their underside. The plant's hollow stem has dark reddish-purple splotches and coarse white hair. Incredibly, one plant can have thousands of seeds. To view photos of the Giant Hogweed, visit the homepage of the EOHU's website at www.eohu.ca.

Giant Hogweed's danger lies in its clear and watery sap. If the sap from a broken stem or crushed leaf, root, flower or seed comes into contact with skin, it can cause severe burns, blistering and painful sores when the skin is exposed to sunlight. Plus, contact with the eyes can lead to temporary or permanent blindness.

Leaves & Flowers of Giant Hogweed.



Burns from Giant Hogweed.



The adjacent photograph was provided by the Canadian Wildlife Service of Giant Hogweed in the Port Rowen area.

Key distinguishing feature on Giant Hogweed is the purple mottled hairy stem. The hogweed leaves are toothed like a saw blade, and the plant can grow well past 8 feet high.

Note Purple Hairy Stems of Giant Hogweed.



Leaves and flowers of the Wild Parsnip.

2) Wild Parsnip
(Pastinaca sativa)

DESCRIPTION: Wild parsnip is a member of the Umbelliferae (parsnip) family. Rosettes grow close to the ground and bear leaves averaging six inches in height. The plant has a long, thick taproot, which is edible. Flowering plants produce a single, thick stem that contains hundreds of yellow umbellate flowers. The lateral flowers often

overtop the terminal flowers. Depending on the habitat and growing conditions, individual

flowering plants range to over four feet in height. Leaves are alternate, pinnately compound, branched, and have saw-toothed edges. Each leaf has 5-15 ovate to oblong leaflets with variable toothed edges and deep lobes.



Burns from the Wild Parsnip.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT: Wild parsnip is tolerant of a wide range of conditions, including dry, mesic, and wet-mesic prairies; oak openings; and calcareous fens. It is shade-intolerant and prefers sunny conditions.

So remember...if you go down in the woods to play....