



2023 Presidential Report

Camping Association of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (CANSPEI)

Jules Lawrence BScN RN CPedN C

May 13, 2023

To the Camping Community,

I took on the role of the interim president of CANSPEI in February 2023 and quickly learned the camaraderie and community of our small but mighty Board of Directors. Together, we have grown as an organization and group of people who love camping in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. This was a big learning curve to take on this role, but one that I have had ample support in!

I want to start by thanking each of our amazing Board of Director members: Amelia, Matt, Janice, Russell, Tiffany, Roxy, Alex and Kim. We have had a tremendous amount of turn over since our last AGM and have arrived today as a stronger team: together. I wish to acknowledge the vast dedication of our two past presidents Mat Whycott and Lara Abramson who supported the 2022 - 2023 year, along with countless others who helped us to support CANSPEI when our leadership needed it. Thank you to everyone who dedicated their time and talents to the survival of this organization!

The 2022 - 2023 was challenging indeed, from the turnover on our Board of Directors to the technology barriers that prevented us in contacting our member and non-member camps effectively. Thank you all for your ongoing patience as we navigate this and know we accept your support and time with open arms. As we head into 2023 we are hopeful to invite more passionate volunteers into our Board of Directors to support the work we thrive to do. To support folks in this, we're currently working on the following projects:

- Updating our By-Laws
- Creating Terms of References for all Positions
- Creating a Year-long calendar for camps and volunteers to refer to for meetings and events

As we continue to move into a successful and thriving provincial camping association, we hope to engage more folks to support our Board of Directors and be part of the work that happens behind the scene. You're always welcome to sit in on a meeting and see if there's work that calls to you and your stewardship. Please don't hesitate to connect with us if you have questions about these!

Thank you for all the work you do on behalf of the camp families that you service.

Yours in Camping

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jules Lawrence", written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'J' being particularly large and stylized.

Jules Lawrence BScN RN CPedN C
Interim President
Camping Association of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (CANSPEI)

All member camps of CANSPEI exist on Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. CANSPEI seeks to live in peace and friendship with our indigenous brothers, sisters and two-spirited siblings as we seek truth and reconciliation with our communities. We acknowledge the work that needs to be done, the bias in our acknowledgement and our need to bridge the gap between the two. We acknowledge the engagement of traditional camp activities and the traditional practices of indigenous people across Turtle Island. CANSPEI seeks to honor these traditions and hold space for their history.