



Essex Region Conservation
the place for life



 The John R. Park Homestead
Advisory Board

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND EXPECTATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Essex Region Conservation Authority has been enriching the Essex region as the Place for Life since 1973. The John R. Park Homestead Conservation Area has been operating as a leading living history agricultural museum and conservation area since 1978. The vision for the site is to “be a premier living legacy of historical and natural treasures, for now and forever, to understand, appreciate and enjoy”. Generations of visitors have learned about the region’s history at this museum by the lake, and have fond memories of making maple taffy, learning the art of blacksmithing, and tasting pioneer treats from the 1850’s kitchen fireplace.

The Essex Region Conservation Authority is currently seeking volunteer members to serve on the John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board.

The John R. Park Homestead Conservation Area’s mission is: To promote an understanding of the natural and cultural history of the region by:

- Conserving and exhibiting the buildings and collections for the public as a living museum
- Conserving and interpreting the natural heritage features of the site
- Delivering innovative education programmes
- Engaging and inspiring the community in a celebration of the past

This mission will be achieved through diligent pursuance of the following goals:

- Exceed the Standards for Community Museums in Ontario
- Value and support our partners, volunteers and staff.
- Protect the Homestead’s heritage structures
- Improve access to the Lake Erie shoreline.
- Increase interpretation of Great Lakes’ natural and cultural heritage with an emphasis on the western basin of Lake Erie
- Plan Strategically

John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board will:

- Ensure that recommendations made and supported by the Advisory Board fulfill the vision, mission and purpose for which the John R. Park Homestead Conservation Area is established; comply with municipal, provincial and federal heritage resource management legislation; and maintain the Standards for Community Museums in Ontario.
- Be guided by the ICOM and CMA code of ethics for museums.
- Develop strategic plans for the Homestead within the strategic directions of ERCA, and review these plans at least every five years.
- Advise and assist the Curator in his/her role in the operation of the site.
- Advocate to ensure that adequate funds are available for the Homestead's operating and capital needs
- Actively support legislation at any level of government, which would be of benefit to the site.

Advisory Board members will:

- Regularly attend Committee meetings (approximately 5 annually).
- Commit to the development and operation of the John R. Park Homestead as a community resource.
- Be aware of social and economic characteristics of the community.
- Understand the goals and objectives of ERCA.
- Work co-operatively in the best interests of the site.
- Devote time and effort to the duties of membership.

Benefits of Membership:

- Share challenges and solutions with similarly-minded community leaders.
- Learn more about, and help implement, culture and heritage best practices and Provincial Standards.
- Guide the direction of the museum and conservation area in accordance with strategic direction.
- Visit the site behind-the-scenes.
- Participate in exciting networking and professional development activities and opportunities.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of Interest for John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board Membership

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Current Occupation: _____

Optional: Feel free to include your resume or CV with your application.

Why are you interested in the John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board?

Please identify your area(s) of expertise/contributions you feel you can make to achieving the Advisory Board's goals.

Please describe other Board or volunteer experiences:

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Please email your Expression of Interest, along with your resume or CV (optional) and two references, to: jrph@erca.org