



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

SCIENCE AND HISTORY OF SABLE ISLAND

May 1-2, 2015
Halifax, Nova Scotia

On December 1, 2013 Sable Island National Park Reserve became officially protected under Canada's *National Parks Act* as its 43rd National Park. Parks Canada has assumed full administrative control of the island and has recently compiled an ecological and biodiversity assessment as part of the foundation for producing the legally-required park management plan.

In support of this process, the Friends of Sable Island Society will hold a conference, open to experts and the general public, on the Science and History of Sable Island including the marine environment that surrounds and maintains the island. Co-sponsors of the conference include the Nova Scotian Institute of Science and Dalhousie University School for Resource and Environmental Studies. This is planned as the first of a potential series of conferences related to the appreciation and management of this unique feature of the Canadian landscape. Natural history, cultural history, and park management will be the main conference themes, and these may include: marine and terrestrial biology, geology, sand transport dynamics, atmospheric physics, hydrology, oceanography, cultural history, biodiversity conservation, conservation of cultural relics, visitor management, and any other area of knowledge that will benefit sound management of the island and its surroundings as mandated by law.

Being made entirely of sand, Sable Island is unusually dynamic and its existence depends on the continuous transport of sand from the surrounding bank onto the island's surface, where it is trapped by vegetation and then lost again in storms. This illustrates the unique challenge of managing Sable Island as a park because it is the only National Park surrounded by open sea, and the first one that would disappear as sea levels rise due to crustal changes combined with effects of climate change.

To submit an abstract:

Abstracts for talks of about 20 minutes, or for posters, should be up to 250 words in length and should address issues related to Sable Island and Sable Island Bank considered over a broad spectrum of public interest and concern. Presentations may cover research in progress, or work that has been completed recently. Conference presenters are invited to submit their conference papers for publication in the Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science (a peer-reviewed open-access scientific journal).

For conference information, see: www.sableislandfriends.ca. Titles of proposed papers, authors, abstracts, and contact information should be received by Friday, December 19, 2014 and addressed to:

Science and History of Sable Island, Conference Planning Committee
Email: info@sableislandfriends.ca (please state "Abstract" in the subject line)

Address: Friends of Sable Island Society, P.O. Box 622, Halifax CRO, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2R7