**Chairperson Report 2022**

2022 ended on a high note. We finally started to build and I can come to our AGM with good news. To say that 2022 was a roller coaster year would be a gross understatement. The low points included (early in the year) finding out our architect had left the firm, finding out our construction costs had jumped 20%, and interest rates were climbing. There were challenges in finding a funding solution through CMHC that would keep our monthly mortgage payment at a cost we could afford, given the dramatic increase in our budget and rising interest rates; delays in our building permit and last-minute changes from Finance PEI regarding mitigating their perceived risk with our loan guarantee. The highs were having images of the final “look” of our building, choosing a name “the Willows”, seeing the construction begin in September (after Fiona), receiving our building permit, signing our CMHC mortgage documents and receiving our first draw from CMHC, that fixed our interest rate at 2.96%. The excitement and anticipation for this new residence in the community began to build.

**Staffing and Consultants:** Jordan MacDonald continued to ably support us on the accounting and application writing aspects of our work – on the weekends. LDG (Local Development Group), our resource consultant, swung into high gear working closely with SableArc our architects, Roger Arsenault from Wellington Construction, and the Building Committee to finalize the construction drawings. Roger then found the companies to bid on the various aspects of the work and finalized the budget. We gave him the go ahead to begin construction in September based on our email agreement with CMHC and a Building permit for the foundation only. Luckily both the full building permit and the signed agreement came into place before he was too far along in construction.

**Fundraising** – We set this aside for the time being, although we did continue to receive donations throughout the year. We had 14 donors giving a total of $18,945.24.

**Board engagement:** Our Board and its committees – Building Committee and HR committee - ramped up their work this past year. We guaranteed the architects and builder that they could get feedback and decisions from us with 24 hours, and we honoured that commitment – many times! The HR committee finalized the General manager job description with a view to hiring early in 2023. Board members continued with high attendance at meetings either in person or via ZOOM and we even had a chance to have two face to face social get togethers.

The CSCL Board is also very thankful for the ongoing support from the Town of O’Leary, particularly through our ex officio Board member Judy MacIsaac, Mayor, Eric Gavin, and CAO Bev Shaw.

This year we particularly want to thank MP Bobby Morrisey and Minister Ernie Hudson for their interest in and support of this project.

We would not be where we are today without the ongoing support of our staff, consultants, Town personnel and the West Prince community. Thank you all!

Sincerely,



Sally Lockhart, Chair