

Project manager and design consultant hired for Bluenose II project

by [Robert Hirtle](#)



The Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage has engaged a project manager and design consultant to oversee the restoration of Bluenose II.

LUNENBURG - The province has taken the first step in the restoration of Bluenose II with the hiring of a project manager and design consultant.

Tourism, Culture and Heritage Minister Percy Paris announced December 17 that MHPM Project Managers Inc. has been engaged to manage the project following a call for proposals that closed October 15.

The department has also retained the services of Lengkeek Vessel Engineering Inc. to provide design consultation and develop detailed plans and specifications which will be employed during the construction phase of the project.

MHPM Project Managers Inc. has been actively involved in a number of private and public projects throughout Canada and has offices across the country as well as in Africa and the Middle East.

Company spokesman Stephen Vaslet said his firm is proud to be leading a project that will ensure the ship's legacy, "which is well-known across Canada and many parts of the world," remains secure for the people of Nova Scotia.

With over 25-years experience as a naval architectural and marine engineering firm, Dartmouth-based Lengkeek Vessel Engineering Ltd. has designed a wide range of boats, including yachts and pilot boats as well as offshore and passenger ships.

"Helping to maintain Bluenose II's proud role as Nova Scotia's sailing ambassador is truly exciting," said company spokesperson Marius Lengkeek. "We look forward to contributing to Nova Scotia's seafaring heritage as part of the project."

Mr. Paris called the refit of Bluenose II "welcome news" because of the jobs it will create "during these challenging economic times.

"It also assures Nova Scotians that this national icon will continue to represent our proud spirit and heritage to many parts of the world for many years to come," he said.

The next step in the refit project involves the province tendering the construction phase by issuing a request for expressions of interest from interested bidders, which is expected to take place shortly.

The province has already announced work on the ship should begin this spring and will be carried out somewhere on the Lunenburg waterfront.

Both the provincial and federal governments have committed \$7.2 million towards the project, which must be completed by March 2011 to qualify for the federal share of the funding.

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