



November 24, 2023

Dear Friends of Queen's House,

A Queen's House Transition Planning Committee has been struck following recent meetings involving selected staff, members of our Advisory Board and leadership representatives of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the religious order which owns Queen's House. The purpose of this committee is to discuss the withdrawal of the Oblates from retreat ministry and the upcoming sale of the property. These meetings were helpful and allowed us to clarify this challenge and begin to plan for next steps. We offer you this brief update:

- To date the property has not been sold.
- The Oblates are preparing a Request for Proposals (RFP) document to guide the interest and offers that are emerging from our community regarding the property. When the Oblates are ready to respond to these RFPs, a notice will be posted in our weekly e-newsletter and on our website. If you know of anyone considering submitting an expression of interest or wanting to submit a proposal regarding the purchase of this property, please contact Rob Meilleur, CFO for the Oblates, by email at RMeilleur@omilacombe.ca
- Our plan is to conclude all Oblate-sponsored programs and hosted bookings by July 31, 2024.
- A time of giving thanks for Queen's House, the Oblates, and the gifts of the last 65 years is tentatively scheduled to take place at the end of Fr. Ron Rolheiser's annual retreat, on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, July 18, 2024.

We will keep you posted as further details emerge. In the meantime, please continue to enjoy the many retreats and workshops that we will be offering in the coming months, and we look forward to welcoming those groups who enjoy coming to the retreat centre for meetings and conferences. Thank you for continuing to pray for wisdom, creativity, and discernment as the future of this property is determined.

Brendan Bitz, Executive Director

Adele Longstaff, Chair, Advisory Board