

**FROM:** Chris Styles

**SENT:** September 10, 2024

**TO:** Chris Frotten & Barrington Municipality

Committee of the Whole

**SUBJECT:** Request for more information regarding

Shag Harbour Incident Society's vision & progress towards new

Interpretive Centre.

Hello: Chris Frotten & Committee;

My name is Chris Styles, and I am currently a board member of the Shag Harbour UFO Incident Society. I am known within the UFO community, for my UFO research, writing and media appearances regarding the 1967 Shag Harbour Incident and more recently the 1960 Shelburne USO Case. The Society's chair, Laurie Wickens, has asked me to write this response, to address Chris Frotten's request for learning more about the Society's vision and progress towards a new interpretive centre.

### **The Society's Vision**

The Incident Society's primary mission is to promote interest and public knowledge of the historic Shag Harbour UFO Incident and other significant UFO cases that have occurred in Southwest Nova...I began a reinvestigation of the Shag Harbour Incident in April 1992. At that time, the case had slipped into the dustbin of history and was entirely forgotten. My research had an immediate and significant impact within the field of ufology and attracted considerable media and public attention to the case. Within a few years several US feature documentary specials had been produced. Japanese paranormal magazines such as "Borderland"

were featuring in depth articles on the case. Hard cover, scholarly US books, such as "The Randle Report: UFOs In the Nineties", which featured the Shag Harbour Incident, were being published. By 2001 Don Ledger and I published "Dark Object" through Dell / Bantam of New York. Other book publications such as "Impact to Contact" (Arcadia House) would serve to sustain interest in the case. My most recent book, released in 2023, "Sweep Clear 5: NATO's UFO Encounter" (Amazon Press), which deals with both The Shag Harbour Incident and the 1960 Shelburne USO Case, was for several days at the end of May 2024, ranked the number 2 UFO book on Amazon and the #1 most gifted UFO book.

Tributes to the Shag Harbour Incident have come in many forms, from official limited commemorative coins struck by Canada's Mint, to praise from US podcasters who rank the Shag Harbour case as "One of the most compelling arguments for UFO reality." So why is the UFO heritage of Southwest Nova, not on par as a tourist attraction, when compared to other UFO destinations such as Roswell? ...There are to my mind several reasons.

Out of province and international UFO enthusiasts face several challenges when travelling to visit the local sites in Shag Harbour, Shelburne and Cape Sable. Those who fly into Halifax must rent a vehicle to reach Shelburne County or rely on friends, family or colleagues, to spend time in the area, when special events are occurring. Hotel and other accommodations are quite limited in Shelburne County and there is no facility appropriate for actual conventions. And perhaps most concerning, is the fact that the current interpretive centre in Shag Harbour falls short of most people's expectations as a tribute to Shelburne County's UFO heritage... Perhaps nothing highlights this last point as clearly and harshly as a September 12, 2013, article that appeared in the Vancouver Courier. The article, written by John Masters, puts it this way, "**One of the worst museums you'll ever visit, tells one of the most unusual stories you'll ever hear.**" (*article included as an attachment*)

I have seen this type of review in publications from the US, UK & Japan. When the articles see fit to give advice, they inevitably tell the reader to read the books, watch the documentaries, and skip the museum. Despite this negative international press, the UFO cases here go on to survive and attract a new audience.

Earlier this year the National Geographic's series "UFOs: Investigating the Unknown – Season 2" came to the area and did location shooting with myself and several eyewitnesses to be part of the upcoming 2025 broadcast and streaming season on National Geographic, Disney & HULU. The program's audience is independently rated as being in the millions... This will be the first time in several years that coverage of the Shag Harbour Incident and the 1960 Shelburne Case will be seen by a large international audience. In fact, I am currently in negotiation with other US networks, who want to give the UFO cases here some type of treatment. However, one of the concerns I hear time and again is the lack of a proper facility for shooting indoor footage and providing good indoor "b-roll", that would serve to support and enhance the UFO cases here. A new interpretive centre would be a huge asset in any future pitch approach to TV and other types of media producers.

The resumption of US TV interest, the success of the annual Yarmouth UFO XPO event, and the international sales of my most recent book about the 1960 Shelburne USO Case, demonstrate that there is an appetite amongst the public for more of what Southwest Nova has to offer.

The Society understands the limitations of what the municipality can do and appreciates all that it has done to date. **Progress towards a new Interpretive Centre begins with having the land to build upon.** If the Barrington Municipality sees fit to transfer title of the land, then the Society will launch a sustained fund-raising campaign, begin an intensive search for all available government and private sector sources of partial and top up funding, and begin an exploration of the possibility for donations of professional services, such as architecture services, material contributions, discounts, etc. A formal business plan,

by an accredited firm, would also be sought to provide a timetable and set of achievable goals.

If the Municipality sees fit to transfer the land title, it would also be a great help to the Society towards reaching its goal, if in the interim, the Municipality maintained the services that it currently provides for the land in question. *(Lawn care, curb maintenance, etc., until such time as the Society would be ready to open the doors of a new facility, and then assume full responsibility for the land.)*

I remember back in 1992, when I first called the late nuclear physicist / ufologist Stanton Friedman about the Shag Harbour Incident. He was at the time considered the leading expert on UFO crash scenarios and he had never heard of the Shag Harbour Incident. Today, everyone, who is now a UFO enthusiast has heard of the case. It is now time to invest in a future where the case becomes common knowledge and just as well known to the public at large...I believe that if we build it, they will come, whether they are a Sunday driver wanting a day out of the city, or a Hollywood producer looking for the next big thing for sweeps week.

Chris Styles - on behalf on the Shag Harbour Incident Society

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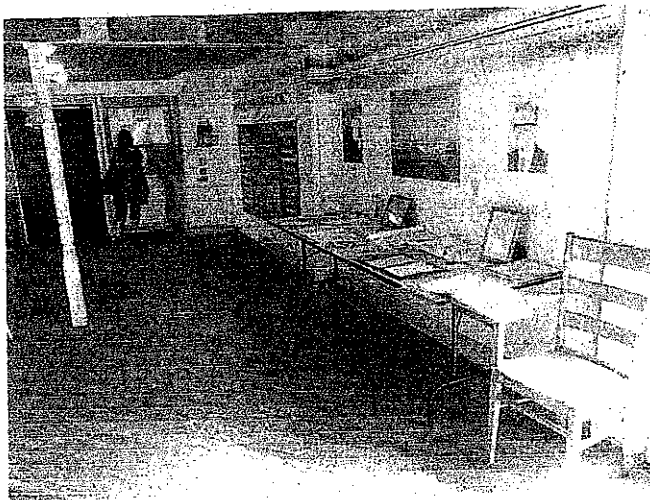
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# VANCOUVERCOURIER

## Nova Scotia's Shag Harbour centre tells intriguing UFO story

John Masters/Meridian Writers' Group / Vancouver Courier

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The Shag Harbour Incident Society Interpretive Centre/Museum is in the village's former general store. While the museum is underwhelming, it has an intriguing story to tell. Photograph By John Masters

SHAG HARBOUR, Nova Scotia — One of the worst museums you'll ever visit tells one of the most unusual stories you'll ever hear.

Shag Harbour, a fishing village in the southwest corner of Nova Scotia, was the site of what's been called "the world's only government-documented UFO crash." That's from the cover of *Dark Object* by Don Ledger and Chris Styles, published in 2001 by Dell Books.

Here's the tale: on the evening of Wednesday, October 4, 1967, many people across Nova Scotia saw unusual lights in the sky. The pilot and co-pilot of a passing Air Canada flight did, too: a large, well-lit, rectangular orange object, followed by a string of smaller lights, about 20 degrees above the horizon. While they watched, there was an explosion near the large object, then another, and the smaller, "kite tail" lights began to dance like fireflies. They followed the lights' progress for several minutes as the objects drifted east.

About two hours after this, around 11:30 p.m., a carload of young people driving through Shag Harbour saw a large shape, flashing four lights, descend at a 45-degree angle headed into the chilly Atlantic Ocean. There was a whistling sound, a whoosh and a bang, and the thing hit the water 200-300 metres offshore. It bobbed on the surface for a

...ile, showing a pale yellow glow, then submerged, leaving a glittering yellow foam, like shaving cream, six centimetres thick in a patch 25 metres wide and a kilometre long, roiled by bubbling from beneath and smelling of sulphur.

Two fishing boats went out, thinking it might be a crashed airliner. Three Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers were aboard. Other vessels joined the search, including a coast guard cutter sent by the Rescue Coordination Centre in Halifax. The RCMP and RCC both filed reports describing the mysterious "dark object" as a UFO. A few days later, divers went down, but no one's sure what they found because by then the official channels had started to clam up. The incident quickly sank from public view — and remained out-of-sight until Dark Object was published, expanding the narrative to include the possible involvement of the super-secret submarine tracking station then in operation at nearby Shelburne.

The Shag Harbour Incident Society Interpretive Centre/Museum conveys this intriguing story largely via photocopies of documents in binders arrayed atop collapsible tables. These stand on the broad, bare floorboards of the village's former general store, converted to its present archival use in 2009. The museum also sells pop, candy, used paperbacks (50¢) and a selection of inflatable and Styrofoam green aliens. Clearly, it could use better funding — and your custom.

The museum is open from late May to mid-October. If you continue three kilometres east on Highway 3 you'll come to a seaside gazebo and a sign, "Site of the 1967 UFO Incident." If you arrive in early August you may enjoy the two-day Shag Harbour Incident Festival. At any time you can have the village post office frank your letter with "Shag Harbour, home of the '67 UFO visit."

For information on travel in Nova Scotia, go to [novascotia.com](http://novascotia.com).

For more stories, go to [www.culturelocker.com](http://www.culturelocker.com).

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