



For Immediate Release

## **Heritage Legacy Fund Awards \$90,000 British Columbia Heritage Projects Receive Funding Boost**

Following a rigorous adjudication process, 17 heritage projects will be receiving \$90,000 in grants. This funding, made possible through the Heritage Legacy Fund and overseen by Heritage BC, provides grants for heritage conservation and heritage awareness projects throughout British Columbia.

"We were very impressed with the breadth of applications to the Heritage Legacy Fund," said jury chair, Jennifer Iredale. "Community organizations all over BC submitted excellent applications to stabilize, conserve and rehabilitate historic places in their towns. We looked at applications to do conservation work on community centers, band offices, churches, artists studio's, large industrial artifacts, cultural landscapes and we looked at projects that will increase awareness and interpretation of historic places in communities all over the Province."

Jennifer continued: "The passion, dedication and long-term commitment to preserving heritage throughout BC was palpable in the applications. The strength of so many applications was in that grassroots passion and community commitment to heritage in their town."

"It is great to see so many B.C. communities benefitting from heritage conservation grants through the provincially-endowed Heritage Legacy Fund. Through the hard work of community organizations that are dedicated to their local heritage, along with the efforts of Heritage BC to maintain and grow the Fund, this \$5 million endowment investment continues to do a terrific job of supporting heritage conservation throughout B.C. It just keeps on giving!" said Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

The 2016 grant recipients were selected by a jury of four members and supported by Heritage BC staff. For more information about projects funded by the Heritage Legacy Fund or to make a contribution to the Heritage Legacy fund, please visit [www.heritagebc.ca](http://www.heritagebc.ca).

### **About the Heritage Legacy Fund**

Since June 2005, the Heritage Legacy Fund has supported heritage conservation in British Columbia with nearly \$1.9 million of project funding. The funds are made possible through a \$5 million endowment established in 2003 by the Province of British Columbia.

Applications are received from museums, heritage societies, local governments and First Nations, often seeking funding for basic repair and maintenance work that are required to safeguard the historical character of these buildings and sites.

Of the over 120 grants provided to date, about 80 per cent have been for the conservation of historic buildings and other structures; from small community halls to civic landmarks such as Victoria's City Hall or the former municipal building in Nelson.

The remaining 20 per cent of grants have been for heritage awareness projects including interpretive signage, walking tours, and online applications that increase public understanding, appreciation, and education of built community heritage resources, including Vancouver Heritage Foundation's Vancouver Heritage Register Interactive Map and Hudson's Bay Company Heritage Trail signage.

## **About Heritage BC**

Heritage BC is a charitable not-for-profit supporting heritage conservation across British Columbia through education, training and skills development, capacity building in heritage planning and funding through the Heritage Legacy Fund. We are passionate about building links between heritage conservation and tourism, economic and environmental sustainability, community pride and an appreciation of our common history.

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